



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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20 December 1993

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Congo

France Advises Citizens To Evacuate Brazzaville

AB1712210393 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] For the second day running, no gunshots have been heard in Brazzaville, which suggests the call for calm by parliamentarians—i.e. deputies and senators—is paying off. This notwithstanding, taxi drivers are still reluctant to go to the southern part of Brazzaville, an area which was the scene of two days of violence this week. Death toll announced: 80 dead. In view of this insecurity prevailing in Brazzaville, France has advised its citizens to take advantage of their end-of-year leave and get out of the Congolese capital.

Gabon

Prime Minister Comments on Elections, Security

AB1712153793 Libreville RTG Chaine Nationale Radio Network in French 1200 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] Prime Minister Casimir Oye-Mba held a news conference at the 2 December building this morning. Yesterday, the head of government, in his capacity as campaign director for Omar Bongo in the presidential elections won by the latter, hosted a cocktail party at Okoume Palace Intercontinental Hotel. It was an opportunity for Mr. Oye-Mba to thank all the other members of the national campaign committee that he led.

Concerning this morning's news conference, the prime minister spoke again on the organization of the 5 December presidential elections, admitting that it was a failure in Libreville. Casimir Oye-Mba also spoke about the notion of change that his fellow countrymen should show in their daily work.

Regarding the criticisms leveled against him by the majority group, the prime minister said he was serene and revealed that he had never asked for any portfolio, not even that of campaign director.

Speaking about security problems, Casimir Oye-Mba said the state of emergency could be extended beyond three months and that the government was currently examining whether to maintain the holding of the local elections on 26 December or not.

Regarding the amendment of the Constitution, the head of government stated that it could be related to the constitutional measures concerning entrance into government.

Last, touching on the devaluation of the CFA franc, Oye-Mba said Gabon has nothing to gain from this measure.

National Assembly Session Adopts 1994 Budget

AB1812132293 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 0730 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] The second regular session of the Gabonese National Assembly ended yesterday with the adoption of the 1994 state budget. It stands at 415 billion CFA franc which is an increase of 11 percent over that of the previous year. This budget is an official indication of the government's will to devote its investment policy to the priority sectors which will benefit from substantial budget increases. Thus, 20 percent of the budget will go to the road infrastructure sector, while 19 percent will go into education. In addition, 5 percent of the budget will be invested in public health and three percent in agriculture. Meanwhile, 69 billion CFA francs will be put aside for debt servicing. In this budget, working expenses has got the lion's share with about 246 billion CFA, which is more than 10.5 percent.

Rwanda

Visiting Burundian Minister Hints at Possible Second Coup

EA1812192993 Kigali Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique Rwandaise in French 1115 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Excerpts] This morning, the president of the republic received Burundi Vice Prime Minister Bernard Ciza at Urugwiro Village, on the outskirts of Kigali. Ciza was accompanied by the adviser for security in the presidency of Burundi, the health and justice ministers, who have been living in Kigali since the 21 October coup d'etat, and the Burundi ambassador to Rwanda.

After the audience, the Burundi vice prime minister told the press that the discussions had focused on the situation currently prevailing in Burundi. Listen to Mr. Ciza:

[Begin recording] [Ciza] [Passage omitted on Ciza coming to Rwanda to brief authorities on situation in Burundi] The second point concerns political stability. As you know, this is ultimately the most important element. This political matter rests on several issues, namely actions geared toward pacification, the restoration of mutual trust, the repatriation of refugees—especially those who came recently in the aftermath of the crisis—the re-establishment of those democratically elected institutions which were deprived of their leader by the putschists, namely the parliament and the president of the republic—and actions geared toward restarting the activities of local grass-roots administrations, because as you know some of them have died and others have fled. Therefore, the population must be given leaders they can trust and refer to.

That is, in a nutshell, the objective of my visit. I came for a briefing on the prevailing situation in the country. [passage omitted on meeting of Burundian parliament]

[Unidentified correspondent] Rumor has it that the army is preparing a second coup d'etat in order to finalize their action. What do you think about this?

[Ciza] Well, there are indeed rumors, I for my part discourage them.

I think that sensible people have realized that a coup d'etat in Burundi where we had set in motion a democratic process, a coup d'etat can never constitute and will never constitute a solution in Burundi. There are vague impulses, there are indeed individuals who still dream and think that there is always a way of doing something to follow on from what was done on 21 October. But I think that the great majority of people have realized what can happen to a country in the event of some people wanting to take power by force. So, the great majority of the population has understood that and we are tirelessly working toward discouraging the minority dissidents who still think that they can accede to power by force. The people have already said no, and the people are still ready to say no. [passage omitted on expected arrival of foreign protection force]

[Unidentified correspondent] There is still talk of massacres of Burundians in the upcountry provinces. What do you have to say about this?

[Ciza] Yes, here and there massacres have occurred, which are mainly due to the fact that there are still pockets of army troops who do not respect orders given by the government and the army command. So there are still undisciplined elements who take initiatives and go out and commit crimes. We hear of this now and again. I learned about such a thing in Kirundo, in northeastern Burundi, we have heard about this in Ngozi, in northern Burundi, some time ago etc.... [pauses] So there are indeed still in the country such groups organizing themselves to sow terror within the population. Unfortunately there are human casualties because of this. However, we are trying to identify these groups and when the time comes [words indistinct] every one. [passage omitted on location of government operations] [end recording]

Zaire

Presidential Adviser Views Shaba Province Declaration

AB1812092993 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French 1800 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] Many newspapers and radio stations at home and abroad have expressed astonishment about the head of state's silence concerning the Shaba governor's declaration of total autonomy of his region and, above all, concerning the stalemate in the consultations at the People's Palace.

In an interview granted to journalist Mikombe Waka Shimpolo this morning, the head of state's special adviser, Honore Nguanda Nzambo Kwatumba, explained that since the adoption of the Coordinated Act of Transition, the

president of the Republic no longer sees to the day-to-day management of the country's affairs. There is a government responsible for the management of everyday affairs. Regarding the total proclamation of the Shaba Province, the head of state's special adviser thought that it was proper to distinguish the form and the substance.

Regarding the form, the autonomy of the regions is a principle accepted in Article 2 of the Coordinated Act voted in the Kinshasa political conclave. A draft bill was proposed to this effect and submitted to the Parliament. But the serious aspect is the substance. It is not the responsibility of a regional governor to proclaim the autonomy of a region. This is the head of state's prerogative.

Touching on the social and economic crisis, the head of state received businessmen on two occasions to give them advice. The rest is the responsibility of the government.

Concerning the stalemate in the consultations at the People's Palace, Mr. Nguanda explained that at the beginning, there were politicians who were for the logic of holding a sovereign national conference and others for the holding of a conclave. In the face of this division of the country into two, the politicians decided to go to the negotiation table in order to reach an understanding on how to constitute the government and the Parliament.

The special adviser urged the Zairian politicians to be a little more concerned about the misery and the constant deterioration of the situation in Zaire in order to rise above personal differences. For him, if the opposition wants Mr. Tshisekedi to be prime minister, it must make the proposal to participants in the consultations. If they accept, Mr. Tshisekedi will become prime minister.

Concerning the splitting up of the presiding institution, those who made this decision know that they cannot implement it. The seriousness of the crisis and the social situation in our country should rather invite politicians to have a greater sense of responsibility.

Regarding the troika's move, the special adviser said that the head of state very much welcomed the troika's move. For the first time, it advised the head of state and the opposition to come to an agreement. The head of state is ready to sign the agreements, but he cannot sign them alone.

Touching on the monetary reform, the head of state's special adviser, Mr. Nguanda, admitted that the situation is catastrophic today. The coordination of this reform was a failure. This is a big responsibility for the government and the Bank of Zaire. By calling on the people to reuse the new currency, the politicians did not make things easy either.

Lastly, the head of state's special adviser explained that our future depends on us. If the politicians are not aware of the danger awaiting us by rising above our differences, it is a dangerous thing. Our hope, he said, is that the politicians should rise above these differences for the paramount interest of the nation.

Djibouti

President Gouled Ready for Dialogue With Opposition

LD1912204193 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Text] In Djibouti, police arrested some 30 youngsters yesterday; they were secondary school students who were demonstrating to get guarantees on their grant payments.

At a political level, President Gouled made an important statement today. He is obviously making a gesture toward his opponents. He is also mentioning the fate of political prisoners. Abdi Aden has the story:

[Aden] It is desirable not to reduce the recent release of prisoners to the sole release of Ali Aref, who was only one prisoner out of 14. President Hassan Gouled said Ali Aref and the other prisoners were sentenced by the Djibouti judiciary, and those who have been pardoned have only been granted a large reduction in their sentence.

President Hassan Gouled said, however, that he is ready to start a dialogue in Djibouti in the very homes of opposition activists. Yet the dialogue must take place within the framework of an inter-Djibouti process, and not through an internationalization of the problem. Assuming that a dialogue between the Djibouti Government and the opposition is possible, President Hassan Gouled said overtures toward the opposition could be envisaged if the steps are taken locally. He added, if the demands of the opposition come from abroad, I will reject them.

For the first time, President Hassan Gouled gave an estimate of the cost of the war between the Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy and the Djibouti Government: 13 billion Djibouti francs. We were faced with a dilemma, President Gouled said: Either we spent 13 billion, or the Djibouti nation would have collapsed. Moreover, President Hassan Gouled acknowledged that Djibouti is going through a financial crisis, but, he added, things will get back to normal in the next six months.

Eritrea

President Isayas Afewerki Leaves for Djibouti

EA1812190893 Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrigna 1600 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Excerpt] President Isayas Afewerki left today for Djibouti for a two-day official visit, at the invitation of Djiboutian President Hassan Gouled Aptidon. [passage omitted].

Joint Statement Issued

EA2012110093 Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 20 Dec 93

[Report on Joint statement issued on 19 December by the Governments of Eritrea and Djibouti—read by announcer]

[Text] Eritrean President Isayas Afewerki conducted a two-day working visit from 18 to 19 December to the Republic of Djibouti at the invitation of His Excellency President Hassan Gouled Aptidon of Djibouti.

The two leaders discussed at length bilateral relations and ways and means of developing and enhancing cooperation. They signed an agreement that will enhance and strengthen fraternal relations, benefitting the peoples of both countries. The two leaders also discussed issues affecting the two neighboring countries, as well as regional and international issues.

After discussing the situation in South Africa, they expressed their satisfaction with the political changes under way there. They also expressed their support for the peace talks between Israel and Palestine.

The two leaders discussed the situation in Somalia. They affirmed their support for the restoration of peace and stability in Somalia and reaffirmed that they will respect the authority vested in President Meles Zenawi by the OAU heads of state summit in Cairo and the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development summit in Addis Ababa to solve the Somali problem. The two presidents also stated that they will work together with other countries in the region for peace and stability in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea.

President Isayas Afewerki thanked the Djibouti Government for the warm reception accorded to him and his delegation during his stay in the Republic of Djibouti. President Isayas invited President Hassan Gouled Aptidon to visit Eritrea. The latter accepted the invitation and said that the date of the visit will be decided in due course.

President Isayas Returns

EA1912202893 Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrigna 1600 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Excerpt] President Isayas Afewerki returned to Asmara this afternoon after concluding his official visit to Djibouti, at the invitation of Djiboutian President Hassan Gouled Aptidon. President Isayas Afewerki, in a news conference on arrival at the Asmara International Airport, noted that agreements concerning security, culture, economy and joint cooperation were signed. [passage omitted]

Ethiopia

Police Arrests Two More Opposition Members

EA1712225593 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Excerpt] The Ethiopian Transitional Government's central police bureau has disclosed that it has arrested some individuals who were wanted in connection with various cases. According to the statement issued by the central police bureau, it has arrested Mr. Alemayehu Deresa, former Meison [All Ethiopian Socialist Movement] member and Mr. Mesfin Teferi, member of the Coalition of Ethiopian Democratic Forces executive body. [passage omitted]

Peace, Reconciliation Conference Opens in Addis Ababa

EA1812203593 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Excerpts] The peace and reconciliation conference began today. Even though the conference has adopted an agenda, it has failed to reach an agreement on the general procedures for the conference. There is a general fear looming over the conference that it might not reach a tangible agreement because of differences of opinion.

The conference elected Dr. Beyene Petros as chairman and Dr. Taye Wolde Semaiyat as secretary. Fifteen other members of the conference were also elected as reporters from various organizations, the private press, Addis Ababa University—both suspended teachers and suspended students. Alem Newasea reports:

[Begin recording] [Alem] The conference began today at Saba Hall in the Ghion Hotel. It started later than originally scheduled because of poor organization and coordination. [passage omitted]

The conference called upon the government to release the seven people who were arrested by the government, and also asked the government to give guarantees to those delegates who are stranded in Cairo, fearing that the government might arrest them on arrival in Addis Ababa. The chairman of the conference advised those delegates stranded in Cairo to decide for themselves on the question of attending or not attending the conference, but did not say anything concerning what those people stranded in Cairo had decided. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Demonstrators Support EPRDF-SEPDEF Unity

EA1912115393 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Excerpt] The residents of six zones yesterday in their respective towns expressed their support in a peaceful demonstration for the unification of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front [EPRDF] and the Southern Ethiopia People's Democratic Front [SEPDEF]

and said it is the sign for democratic unity. The people of Gurage, Bench Keficho, Maji and the Southern Omo people during their demonstration in their respective areas said that the unification of the two fronts is the basis for a strong unity and will also break the morale of those forces who say that there is no peace in our country. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister, Delegation Leave for Conference in Sudan

EA2012121993 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1000 GMT 20 Dec 93

[Excerpt] The third Ethiopian-Sudanese joint ministerial conference is expected to begin this afternoon. A high-level Ethiopian delegation led by Prime Minister Tamirat Layne left for Khartoum, Sudan, this morning, to attend the conference.

The conference, which will last three days, will focus on experts' reports, the implementation of agreements reached by the two governments from 1992 to 1993, as well as ways and means of strengthening joint cooperation between the two countries. [passage omitted]

Somalia

SNA Condemns UNOSOM Detention Conditions

EA1812201793 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] A press statement issued today by the Somali National Alliance [SNA] condemned the ways in which officials and supporters of the SNA who were abducted from their homes illegally and detained by UN Operation Somalia [UNOSOM] have been treated. The press statement gave a detailed account of UNOSOM operations, which were meant to provide Somalia with assistance and find a solution to Somali problems, but which resulted in very bad consequences, worsening past problems and resulting in the deaths of over 12,000 Somalis, injuries, and great destruction of both private and public property.

Moreover, SNA officials and supporters were abducted by UNOSOM from their homes and the street, despite not having committed any crime. Some of them are being detained in secret bases and on islands. The conditions of the prisoners are very bad, and the way they are being treated is in violation of the international conventions protecting human rights.

The SNA press statement also stated that, as agreed by the SNA and the world, a course of dialogue should be adopted in order to find a just solution to Somali problems. The alliance appealed for this many times, and the international community was aware of this. However, unfortunately, UNOSOM was still opposed to the implementation of the new indispensable policy, preferring its harmful programs and plans. This was

exemplified, the press statement added, by the fact that UNOSOM is still holding eight SNA officials, and many Somali citizens and supporters.

Among the detained SNA officials are Osman Hassan Ali, alias Osman Ato, who was abducted from his home on 21 September; and Omar Salad Ilmi and Mohamed Hassan Awaleh, both of whom were abducted from their homes on 3 October. The living conditions of these people are dangerous. In detention they are faced with problems ranging from lack of food, lack of shelter, lack of water, ill-health and lack of other basic human necessities. They are refused treatment and doctors and they are subjected to constant mental and physical torture. They are refused visits from their families, relatives and friends and are kept in the dark concerning world news.

All of this state of affairs was in violation of the international conventions safeguarding human rights, particularly prisoners. The press statement made it clear that the UNOSOM-held SNA prisoners began a general hunger strike on 5 December in protest against the ill-treatment they are receiving in detention. Up to now it is not known whether these people are dead or what has become of them.

The press statement added that it seems the ill-treatment of the prisoners is intended to kill them slowly if the so-called [word indistinct] fighting and wars that were waged by UNOSOM against Somalia failed. Finally, the SNA press statement appealed to the heads of world governments, the international community, regional and governmental organizations and human rights bodies to take immediate action to investigate and save the lives of the officials held by UNOSOM.

All Somali prisoners held by UNOSOM should be freed without any conditions. They should be treated properly and granted all rights to which a prisoner is entitled.

Officials Begin Hunger Strike

AB1812164993 Paris AFP in English 1628 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] Mogadishu, Dec 18 (AFP)—Three officials of Somali warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid's faction have launched a hunger strike to protest the "very harsh conditions" of their imprisonment by U.N. forces in Somalia.

In a letter released late Saturday [18 December], the three officials of the Somali National Alliance (SNA) said they had "fasting from food or drink" because of the conditions in which they have been held since their arrests in September.

"We are held in very harsh conditions of solitary confinement in strict incommunicado and blindfolded, with bad food and a lack of body washing and laundering water, under extremely scorching sun on an island off the southern coast of Somalia," the three men said in the letter, released by the SNA.

The organisation failed to explain how the men had managed to get the letter out of their place of detention.

The three being held are Osman Otto, a wealthy businessman considered to be the financier of the SNA, Omer Salad Elmi and Mohamed Hassan Awale.

"Our conditions of health were already bad and we don't know how our health and even lives will be after fasting," the letter said. The date of when they began the hungerstrike was crossed out and illegible.

"We appeal to the Somali people, world leaders and peoples, and human rights groups to look into our case and secure our release and those of other Somali captives as well.

"We were arrested and detained unlawfully and unfairly by sheer force," they said.

Last month the U.N. released around 30 supporters of General Aidid and suspended a manhunt for the warlord, wanted in connection with an attack that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers.

UN Spokesman Denies Ill-Treatment

AB1912092093 Paris AFP in English 0858 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Text] Mogadishu, Dec 19 (AFP)—A UN military spokesman Sunday denied that members of Somali warlord Mohammed Farah Aidid's faction detained by UN forces were being ill-treated.

The Somali National Alliance (SNA) released a letter Saturday signed by three of its officials in UN detention saying they had gone on hunger strike to protest against the "very harsh conditions" of their imprisonment.

"We don't believe the letter is genuine, the three detainees are being treated well, fed well...we believe it is a forgery," Major Tim McDavitt, spokesman for the UN Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM), said.

The detainees are Osman Otto, considered the SNA's financier, arrested on September 21, and Omar Salad Elmi and Mohammed Hassan Awale, both held since October 3.

In their letter they claimed they were being held in "very harsh conditions of solitary confinement, in incommunicado and blindfolded," with bad food and without water to wash themselves or their clothes under a scorching sun on an island off the coast of Somalia. "Our conditions of health were already bad and we don't know how our health and even lives will be after fasting," the letter said. The date of when they began their hunger strike was crossed out and illegible, but the SNA said they had probably started their fast on December 5.

"We appeal to the Somali people, world leaders and peoples, and human rights groups to look into our case and secure our release and those of other Somali captives

as well." "We were arrested and detained unlawfully and unfairly by sheer force," they said.

Last month the United Nations released around 30 supporters of General Aidid and suspended a manhunt for the warlord, wanted in connection with an attack that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers.

SNA Says Talks Continue, Calls Mogadishu Meetings 'Detrimental'

EA1812114293 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1745 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Excerpts] The Somali National Alliance [SNA] has sent no battle wagons or technicals [as heard] to Ethiopia, as reported by some radio stations. This was said today by Mr. Abdi Hassan Awale Abdi Qaidid, the chairman of the SNA High Committee for Internal Affairs, when he addressed journalists from the Voice of the Great Somali People. He added that the stories were wishful thinking cherished by colonialists and their puppets, and were part of the falsehoods designed to confuse world opinion.

Speaking on the SNA's external and internal policies, Mr. Qaidid said SNA policies were based on how to bring about peaceful coexistence among the Somali people and establish cordial relations and cooperation with countries of the world, particularly our neighbors.

Referring to the consultative talks between the Somali organizations in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Mr. Qaidid said those who loved peace and Somalia remained there and continued with their talks, adding that the talks were not expected to be concluded soon. He said some Somali individuals and the self-styled UN Operation in Somalia left the meeting and began other meetings in Mogadishu that were detrimental to the Somali people's peace and unity. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, Mr. Abdi Hassan Awale Abdi Qaidid called on the Somali people to unite and be on guard against individuals serving the interests of the people's enemies.

Salvation Alliance Conference Passes Resolutions

EA1912165393 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] The conference of the 12 political organizations united under the Somali Salvation Alliance [SSA], held 13-18 December, was officially concluded at Lafwen Hotel in Mogadishu by passing resolutions, plans for action, and calls for peace for the Somali people. After considering the sensitive situation the Somali people now find themselves in, and fully realizing the concerns and aspirations of the Somali people, and valuing the Addis Ababa Accord of 27 March 1993, and expressing great concern and anxiety about the evacuation of the UN peacekeeping forces and the starvation and suffering facing Somali people, the 12 political organizations of

the country unanimously and in a spirit of goodwill are facing up to the difficult situation of the country by working on issues affecting the whole nation with a common view and extensive action.

The alliance of the 12 organizations has resolved that all the steps they would take should keep in mind the problems experienced by the Somali people, should reject enmity and murder and uphold instead the hope for peace, mutual respect, national dignity and the goal of government. The organizations unswervingly clarify that they would observe the Addis Ababa accord and its implementations as stated in all its articles, and that the formation of the provisional national council should be speeded up without delay so as to establish an administration, the completion of district and regional councils to regain government, and the self-administration the Somali people want.

The 12 organizations are very much concerned about the plan to evacuate UN peace keeping forces by March 1994 without completing the work of disarmament and the establishment of security forces, which would ensure the general peace situation and peace of the country, and the Somali people call for their continued presence to fulfill the heavy duty they are shouldering and counter the problems that could result from their evacuation. The 12 political organizations of the country are continuously following up the problems and suffering faced by the Somali people and how their right for a dignified and human life has been abused and they call for the following:

1. The drawing up of an emergency plan to do something about the re-establishment of an administration and general social services in order to revive the national and settlement administrations and rehabilitate government bodies in line with the declaration of the fourth humanitarian conference in Addis Ababa.
2. The establishment of national, regional and district level peace committees composed of community leaders, religious scholars, wise people, professionals and the community in order to create peace among the Somali people and realize reconciliation, brotherhood and community interaction among all Somali communities wherever they may be.
3. The repatriation and resettlement of refugees and displaced people in an organized way in consultation and cooperation with the concerned people living in the areas of resettlement.
4. The creation of a continuous system of streamlining and togetherness among UN Operation Somalia [UNOSOM] and the political organizations which signed the Addis Ababa agreements, in order to create a forum for consultations and meetings to facilitate discussions on important national issues.

In order to strengthen the work of the 12 political organizations, the following plan has been resolved:

Internal Affairs

1. The establishment of a secretariat for organizing the work of the alliance of the 12 organizations.
2. The formation of a program for exchange of visits to the regions.
3. The organization of a week of peace to hold demonstrations in all the regions of the country on the first week of January 1994.
4. The holding of a seminar for peace and reconciliation concerned with family reunions and child care.
5. The drawing up of a program for returning national and private assets as stated clearly in the Addis Ababa agreements.
6. The formation of a permanent committee to contact and hold talks with the Somali National Alliance [SNA] in order to facilitate and speed up the implementation of the Addis Ababa agreements.
7. The holding of a great national peace conference to be attended by community leaders to be preceded by local preparatory meetings.
8. The directing of radio programs to realize aspirations for peace and reconciliation by preparing special programs for guidance supported by international bodies and donors.
9. The holding of meetings for streamlining administration at district and regional levels with the formation of councils to discuss the issues of reconstruction, development, peace, laws and constitutional affairs in line with the principles of regional autonomy already agreed upon and learning from the practice of governments that had adopted such a system.
10. The drawing up of a program to fight crime and to implement it speedily by political organizations and community leaders.
11. The establishment of a broad technical committee to prepare a socioeconomic plan and strategy for development to implement after the formation of the provisional national council.

Foreign Affairs

1. The holding in Kenya of a special conference for the repatriation of refugees and displaced Somali people to be participated in by the organizations which signed the Addis Ababa accord, donors, neighboring countries and UN bodies.
2. An explanation to the international community of the true political situation in Somalia and the problems that could result from the evacuation of UN forces at the end of March 1994.

3. A request to donors to support a program for reconstructing regions and districts and reviving the departments of general services and government offices within a limited time.

4. The organization of visits and tours for donor representatives and the press to regions and districts so as to inform themselves about the humanitarian situation and problems existing at the regions and establish direct link with them.

5. Cooperation with international donors in preparing an extensive plan to recover from the economic ruin suffered by the country as a result of the civil war to be implemented following the attainment of general peace.

6. The formation of a program to be drafted by the United Nations and donors to disarm the militia and their commanders and redirect them to productive sectors to aid stabilization in the country, hence the need to form a fund to purchase weapons from the youth and train them to rejoin the working part of society.

The 12 organizations also passed at their meeting a peace call directed to all Somali people such as religious scholars, intellectuals and educated Somalis.

The 12 political organizations are deeply aware and are following up in minute detail your worries related to the foundation of peace, reconciliation and return of the sovereignty of Somalia. Your anxiety and your longing is not hidden from us and the expression of your emotions are shaking our thinking and at the same directing our work for seeking peace. The organizations said they were fully aware that the civil war had claimed countless numbers of our dear boys, girls, fathers, mothers, friends and relations. They said they know the civil war had left them without support and turned them into nonentities with intolerable suffering. They said they knew that the future will be dark if they did not all hold their hands together in the ray of hope.

The alliance said that they were satisfied that anarchy and the use of arms will lead nowhere but ruination. They were also satisfied that the failure and ruin were caused by internal fighting and squabbling. They knew that the former injustice and the current ill advice were harming their mutual confidence. The enmity and harassment subjected to innocent people and to those who struggled for independence and equality damaged human conduct. They knew that if mutual forgiveness and tolerance were not adopted they would end up in failure and its consequences. Therefore, the 12 political organizations very much desire peace and reconciliation and call upon all to reject chaos and division. Unity, communal understanding and brotherhood in unity should be the way to save our nation. Revenge and intolerance should be put aside. Mutual trust should return to replace mutual suspicion and avoidance. We should learn from the blood that has been shed so as not to fall into another sin in the future. Our Islamic faith and Somali customs see our evil acts in the past years as

violations against them. Really it is shocking and disgusting. They said that they wanted to help resolve our national problems and put them before tribal clashes and selfish interests. There are only two ways open for us. Either to continue with self-destruction or to reclaim our democracy, nationhood, dignity, unity, honor, brotherhood and life founded in an atmosphere of democracy. We should erase hate and division. We should all voluntarily disarm ourselves because it is the tool employed for mass destruction. This is a message of peace—despair and enmity should never be accepted. Hope and a sincere decision for the sake of god for rehabilitation of Somalia which should reflect our future actions should replace enmity.

The 12 political organizations of the country openly announced that they will continue talking to our brothers, the Somali National Alliance and the Somali National Movement, starting with ways of ending the division and the civil war that went on for three years. It is our historic responsibility to align and put our country on track. We should put the common good before that of selfish individual or group interests. Our goal should be to serve a united Somalia. The 12 political organizations thanked the international community for the humanitarian help it had forwarded to the Somali people during this difficult time and without ulterior motives. Present and future generations will never forget the humanitarian assistance and rescue work which coincided with the time of need, said the organizations. The leaders of

the 12 organizations called for the continuation of peace-keeping work by UN forces in Somalia, and called especially on the U.S. Government and the EC to rethink their decisions on withdrawing their forces.

The work for the return of peace, stability and saving the people is still there and cannot end without the establishment of national government and the restoration of peace and order.

SNA Official Says Central Region Security 'Very Good'

EA1912114393 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] Mr. Mohamoud Mohamed Ali Sigane, the commander of the Somali National Alliance [SNA] forces in the central regions, said that the security situation in the regions and adjoining areas was very good and there was no problem at all. Sigane went on to say that residents of the regions would like to promise relief agencies and independent organizations their cooperation, warm welcome, and a guarantee for their security. The commander appealed to the residents of the central regions to support the agencies to discharge their duties to revive education, health, and general rehabilitation. Sigane added that the people of the central regions were fed up with the conspiracies of UN Operation in Somalia [UNOSOM] and its puppets against the Somali people. For this reason, he said, UNOSOM and its puppets could not come to the central regions.

'Boer Battle Plan' Revealed in Parliament

MB1912132693 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English 19 Dec 93 p 2

[Report by John MacLean]

[Text] The AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] has completed detailed plans for a large-scale mobilisation of a "Boer Task Force" to wage civil war. The Boer battle plan was disclosed in Parliament yesterday and the SUNDAY STAR later obtained a copy of the complete document. It also contains plans for the mass graves of "kaffirs" and is sure to embarrass the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), which is in political partnership with the Volksfront [National Front]—itself the representative of the AWB in the Freedom Alliance. The plans also present a problem for moderates such as General Constand Viljoen.

The plan was certified as authentic by police who provided it to a senior National Party MP, Dr Johan Steenkamp. He is a member of the National Peace Secretariat and plans to raise it at the next meeting of the body. He said the plan reeked of racism and Nazism. "The AWB sees the blacks as enemy number one. They are 'kaffirs' who must be wiped out." He said: "It is macabre to believe, but Dr Buthelezi is today making pacts with people who see the Zulus as kaffirs and are busy with their funeral arrangements."

The plan says: "Sites for mass graves must be identified and ditches must be dug in which to bury kaffirs." It also says "no kaffir or non-white will be allowed" in special camps which the AWB is to establish.

In terms of the plan members will be signalled to gather at specific points, taking with them all they will need during the conflict. Each man is to report in camouflage uniform and with a rifle and ammunition. Women, children and the elderly will be placed under guard at special camps.

The "Boer Task Force" will be divided up into scouting patrols of four men each and fighting patrols of 10. Their task will be to secure towns. Roads to the towns will be blocked off with tractors and trailers. Once this is done other patrols will enter "to wipe out all blacks and bury them so that no internal attack can be launched." The mobile units will live in camouflaged camps at secret locations. This is to prevent them being identified from the air, from ground attack and from terror attacks by "splinter groups".

The plan deals with the establishment of field hospitals for the wounded, the stockpiling of explosives, weapons and ammunition, food and hardware. It also calls on members to draw sufficient money when the signal is given because bank accounts may be closed during the conflict. There are even plans for a rightwing "air force" using micro light air craft for reconnaissance. Members are asked to obtain aerial photographs of all military bases and photographs of factories. A headquarters will

set up a radio and telephone communication system with its own power, and members have been asked to buy two-way radios.

Law, Order Ministry Denies Police 'Authenticated' AWB War Plan

MB2012102293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0951 GMT 20 Dec 93

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 20 SAPA—The Law and Order Ministry on Monday denied reports that the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging's [Resistance Movement—AWB] alleged plan to wage civil war had been authenticated by police.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Capt Craig Kotze told SAPA reports of police authentication of the report were "premature", as a copy of the document was only forwarded to the South African Police by the National Peace Secretariat on Monday morning. "It is only now in the process of being investigated by the South African police and no comment can at this stage be made on its authenticity or origins," he said.

Capt Kotze refused to comment on senior National Party [NP] MP Johan Steenkamp having said in an interview on Sunday that the 16-page war plan had been submitted to the National Peace Secretariat by police.

A Sunday newspaper also reported police had authenticated the plan and provided it to Mr Steenkamp, himself a member of the peace secretariat. It said Mr Steenkamp had revealed the document to a special parliamentary sitting on Saturday.

Mr Steenkamp was not immediately available to comment.

The AWB earlier distanced itself from the document which suggests it is preparing for full-scale civil war and the elimination of blacks.

The organisation claimed in a statement the document was false and concocted by the the NP, the SAP [South African Police] and the media to put the AWB in a bad light. The AWB said the document was ridiculous and in bad taste, and maliciously drawn up in an attempt to stop the organisation from entering into agreements with other parties such as the Ciskei government and the Inkatha Freedom Party.

The AWB and the IFP Vereeniging branch recently signed a non-aggression pact promising to support each other in the event of aggression from African National Congress-alliance quarters. The agreement was rejected by the IFP national leadership.

De Klerk, Ramaphosa Meet on IFP Proposed Amendments

MB1712194393 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1635 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] Cape Town Dec 17 SAPA—President F W de Klerk and Minister of Constitutional Development

Roelf Meyer met ANC [African National Congress] Secretary-General Cyril Ramaphosa at Tuyunhuys on Friday for 45 minutes. A spokesman from the Office of the State President said the meeting took place as a result of a telephone conversation earlier on Friday between Mr de Klerk and ANC President Nelson Mandela. It was aimed at seeking solutions to the constitutional amendments proposed by the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party].

Technical discussion between Mr Meyer and the Freedom Alliance [FA] would continue this weekend. Mr Meyer has been in contact with about a possible meeting between Mr de Klerk and FA leaders.

It is understood this can only take place before early next week.

PAC Annual 2-Day Conference Begins in Transkei 16 Dec

*MB1612094093 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0920
GMT 16 Dec 93*

[By Enrico Kemp]

[Text] Umtata Dec 16 SAPA—A tense debate on the Pan-Africanist Congress's [PAC] position on next year's general election is expected at the organisation's two day annual conference, which starts at the University of the Transkei on Thursday.

The PAC's National Executive Committee [NEC] is believed to have approved the movement's participation in the election at a late night meeting on Wednesday, but the decision is strongly contested by influential groupings within the PAC.

Other issues on the agenda are the future of the armed struggle and relief for the PAC's cash-strapped branches. Closely linked to the PAC's decision to contest the election is its parlous financial state which has resulted in unpaid staff salaries, office rentals and telephone bills in some regions.

PAC sources have indicated that provisions in the electoral bill for state funding to political parties could help ease the cash squeeze and enable their movement to tackle the election on a firmer footing.

If the NEC's decision on elections is ratified the PAC is expected to table its election manifesto as well as a comprehensive election literary programme. Observers are also watching closely to see whether the PAC will participate in the Transitional Executive Council [TEC]. Until now PAC has dismissed the TEC as a "toothless" body with insufficient authority particularly over the security forces.

PAC negotiators will also report back on recent meetings with government to bring about "a mutual cessation of hostilities" following peace talks in Zimbabwe at the beginning of November.

The PAC's national working committee has since endorsed the Harare agreement to declare a moratorium on armed activity pending talks with the government, but a follow-up meeting to iron out details between the Azanian Peoples' Liberation Army (APLA) and the South African Defence Force has not materialised.

PAC President Addresses Conference

*MB1612175093 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1651
GMT 16 Dec 93*

[By Enrico Kemp]

[Text] Umtata Dec 16 SAPA—The Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] had to pronounce itself clearly and unambiguously on next year's April 27 election, PAC President Clarence Makwetu said on Thursday. Opening the PAC's two-day annual conference in Umtata, he said the entire country and the international community were following the conference with great interest and high hopes. "It is my earnest hope that this conference will give rise to effective and concrete proposals towards solving our country's problems," he told about 3,000 delegates at the University of Transkei.

Mr Makwetu urged his supporters not to be bitter about the past and said they should not be guided by fear, but by hope, determination and ideals.

Observers at the conference believe Mr Makwetu's conciliatory speech sets the tone for the possible suspension of the PAC's armed struggle and its participation in the Transitional Executive Council and the election. The PAC's national executive committee decided on Wednesday night to contest the April 27 poll, but its decision still had to be ratified by the conference.

The Azanian National Youth Unity, the PAC's influential youth wing, is known to bitterly oppose participation in the election and fierce debate on the issue is expected during a closed session on Thursday night.

Earlier, PAC deputy president and former commander-in-chief of the Azanian People's Liberation Army Johnson Mlambo echoed Mr Makwetu's placatory remarks when he urged delegates to recognise that important developments had taken place in South Africa. "We are standing at a historic juncture. If we consider these matters carefully, we could emerge having made important gains."

Discussion on the future of the PAC's armed struggle comes up on Friday. APLA [Azanian People's Liberation Army] agreed at a meeting in Zimbabwe in November to implement a cease-fire pending talks with the government and the South African Defence Force on "a mutual cessation of hostilities".

PAC To Participate in Elections

*MB1712161893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1455
GMT 17 Dec 93*

[By Enrico Kemp]

[Text] Umtata Dec 17 SAPA—The Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] will participate in next year's election in spite of opposition from elements in its student and youth wings, PAC Foreign Affairs Secretary Gora Ebrahim confirmed on Friday. Briefing journalists at the PAC's annual congress in Umtata, Transkei, he said all branches and regions were bound by Wednesday's unanimous decision by the National Executive Council to contest the April 27 election.

Speaking before delegates started debating the issue in closed session, Mr Ebrahim said every region was represented on the National Executive Committee [NEC] and its decision was therefore binding on all regional structures.

PAC political affairs secretary Jaki Seroke said the debate on the NEC's decision was "not meant as window-dressing". "We realise this is a crucial period in the history of our country and the input of conference is therefore very important."

The decision on the election was expected to spark heated debate, with opposition coming mainly from a self-styled "watchdog" group within the PAC student and youth affiliates. Referring to the PAC's possible participation in the Transitional Executive Council and the future of its armed struggle, Mr Ebrahim said the organisation had "real concerns" about security issues and was negotiating a comprehensive "mutual cessation of hostilities" with the government and its security forces.

Proposed bilateral meetings between the PAC and the government and between the PAC's military wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army, and the defence force had been delayed by the current session of parliament.

Mr Ebrahim and Mr Seroke strongly criticised alleged harassment, victimisation and assault of PAC members by African National Congress activists. "Such harassment and victimisation is clearly incompatible with the demand for the democratisation of our country."

Mr Seroke said the PAC had never created no-go areas and had not been involved in violent internecine conflict. He accused the ANC leadership of "not doing enough to cap violence by its members".

Mr Ebrahim also said the conference had reiterated the PAC's position that funding would be accepted from any quarter provided there were no conditions attached.

The debate on the election decision and the future of the armed struggle was expected to continue until late on Friday night.

PAC Conference Endorses Participation

*MB1812165093 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1446
GMT 18 Dec 93*

[By Enrico Kemp]

[Text] Umtata Dec 18 SAPA—The annual conference of the Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] has unanimously endorsed the organisation's participation in next year's election, but firmly rejected involvement in the Transitional Executive Council [TEC]. Addressing the closing session at the University of Transkei on Saturday, PAC President Clarence Makwetu said the exclusion of the South African Police and SA Defence Force from the jurisdiction of the TEC's sub-council on defence was unacceptable.

He said it would be "tantamount to committing suicide" if the PAC's armed wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army, was subjected to the TEC's authority while the security forces remained under the government's control.

The PAC would not unilaterally suspend its armed struggle, but remained committed to seeking "a mutual cessation of hostilities" with the government, Mr Makwetu said. Follow-up meetings in this regard would be held soon.

Commenting on reports that the PAC had been evicted from its Johannesburg headquarters because of rental arrears, Mr Makwetu said this was news to him. None of the National Executive Committee members attending the three-day conference had heard anything about the alleged eviction.

Earlier, on Saturday, the PAC announced that two alleged police spies attending the conference, had been identified by its security department. National organiser Maxwell Nemaadivhanani said the two youths had allegedly been instructed by a policeman in Botshabelo near Bloemfontein to attend the conference and report on the activities of senior PAC officials and armed members of its security department. He said the youths had co-operated fully during interrogation and would not be harmed in any way.

The conference ended on Saturday afternoon.

ANC Statement Views De Klerk's 'Petty Politicking' in Oslo

*MB1712155293 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1351
GMT 17 Dec 93*

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by the African National Congress: "African National Congress President de Klerk's petty politicking exposed"]

[Text] The African National Congress [ANC] has noted with disappointment the churlish, petty statements by President F W de Klerk accusing the ANC of "bad manners" at the Nobel peace prize ceremonies and

celebrations in Norway and Sweden. President de Klerk was clearly aware that he was not the popular choice for the Nobel Peace Prize, and at the official dinner he remarked that he belonged to the "controversial" half of the prize.

Having made this conclusion one would have expected President de Klerk to be realistic and enough of a statesman to realise that in the eyes of the world the Nobel Prize was not awarded to two equals. Did President de Klerk expect to be carried shoulder-high for having released Nelson Mandela (after twenty seven years of imprisonment); a man who should never have been imprisoned in the first place? It was quite extraordinary enough that the Nobel Prize Committee honoured De Klerk in the first instance, as he was a dedicated senior member of the apartheid regime.

This was made clear in the Nobel lecture by the chairperson of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Professor Francis Sejersted, (which the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] curiously enough only broadcast in Norwegian without any subtitles, (despite the fact they have received the English text of the lecture well in advance). He severely criticised apartheid as a "brutal regime of oppression based on criteria of race alone", but also acknowledged that on "the eve of the 1990's the regime reversed its policies under its new president, Frederik Willem de Klerk". However, most of his lecture was dedicated to praise for Nelson Mandela:

"Mandela had early taken a stand as an active opponent of apartheid. Initially he was among those who were inspired by Gandhi's methods of non-violence. But the climate hardened inexorably, as the Sharpeville massacre of 1960 showed. In 1962 Mandela was imprisoned, and his confinement would last almost 28 years. Some months after his release in 1990 we had the pleasure of receiving Mandela here in Oslo to the so-called "hate conference" organised by the Nobel Committee in cooperation with the Eli Wiesel Foundation. It was a conference which enjoyed the participation of an exceptional group of outstanding men and women. And in this setting Nelson Mandela stood out. He spoke with a moral authority and in a constructive tone that made a profound impression.

"Many people have remarked on the apparent lack of bitterness that characterises Mandela's conduct since he was released from prison. He himself has said that perhaps he would have harboured bitter thoughts if he had not had a job to do. Then he adds as an afterthought that if only all those who have made such great sacrifices for the sake of justice could see that they have not been in vain, that would serve to eliminate the bitterness from their hearts".

Instead of showing understanding and generosity President de Klerk and Mrs de Klerk apparently took exception that Professor Sejersted spoke so frankly. At the Nobel Committee's official dinner for the Nobel Peace Prize laureates Mrs de Klerk refused to respond to Mr Mandela when greeted

her, resulting in guests who witnessed the slight expressing their shock at such petulant and unpleasant behaviour. When the traditional torch march passed the hotel balcony from where the peace prize laureates greeted them, the crowd spontaneously chanted Mr Mandela's name and sang Nkosi Sikelel I-Afrika [God Bless Africa]. Instead of showing the necessary respect President and Mrs de Klerk began talking to one another. Their attitude was interpreted by the crowd as a rejection of a celebratory hymn that belongs to all in the new South Africa. After having committed himself and his government so often to the new South Africa, "God bless Africa" is a sentiment which President de Klerk surely should have had no problems in identifying himself with. In the light of this lack of appropriate and respectful deportment President de Klerk is hardly in a position to accuse others of "bad manners".

President de Klerk claimed that ANC supporters hung posters in the Oslo hall where the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded. This is devoid of any truth. It must be made perfectly clear that the men and women who accompanied Mr Mandela had no part whatsoever in any display of posters, no did any other ANC supporters hung posters in the Oslo hall. This was confirmed by the Nobel Institute when the Norwegian Council for Southern Africa (Nocosa) contacted them yesterday.

The basic reality which President de Klerk cannot escape is that the ANC had no need to "hijack", as he suggested, the attention of the people of Norway and Sweden. The solidarity and depth of feeling of the Norwegian and Swedish people for all that has been overcome in South Africa with so much pain of the majority was demonstrated in the way that they spontaneously embraced Nelson Mandela, who symbolises all these qualities. President de Klerk would have done much better to accept without rancour the fact that this respect for the ANC was built over many years, and was part of the universal fight for the freedom of the human spirit, which neither the NP [National Party], South African Government or De Klerk represents.

President de Klerk is clearly very keen to project himself as a statesman. By squandering a unique opportunity with petty politicking and meanness, he only confirmed that the people of Norway and Sweden are correct in their support for Nelson Mandela and the ANC. Issued by the Department of Information and Publicity P O Box 61884 Marshalltown 2107

Response to ANC Statement

MB1712193093 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1649
GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] Cape Town Dec 17 SAPA—As befits a presidential couple, President and Mrs de Klerk were consistently gracious in their dealings with ANC [African National Congress] leader Nelson Mandela during their two days in Oslo, a spokesman from the Office of the State

President said on Friday. Responding to an ANC statement, he said the deeply personal nature of the comments about President and Mrs de Klerk—particularly those aimed at Mrs de Klerk—were regrettable.

"At no time during the festivities in Oslo surrounding the presentation of the Nobel Peace Prize did Mrs de Klerk refuse to greet Mr Mandela.

"Quite the contrary—the President and Mrs de Klerk met Mr Mandela on a number of occasions during the two days they were together in Oslo and, as befits a presidential couple, they were consistently gracious in their dealings with the ANC leader."

Government, CP Criticize Police Participation in MK March

MB1712161793 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] Participation by members of the Police and Civil Rights Union in uniform in yesterday's MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe—ANC Military Wing] march has been strongly criticized by Government and the Conservative Party.

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Craig Kotze condemned the participation of police in the ANC [African National Congress] for again flagrantly abandoning the principle of impartial policing. Kotze says this is even more important in the light of the upcoming election which must be seen to be free and fair. He said the SAP [South African Police] cannot be politicized at this stage. Kotze says the ground rules for union activities by police are now in place for everyone to see, so there's no excuse for any member of the police to march under any political banner.

CP spokesman for law and order, Schalk Pienaar, says the participation of these policemen was blatant contempt for SAP discipline and an open, repeated challenge of SAP authority. Pienaar says it is also a challenge to Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel and SAP Commissioner General Johan van der Merwe, who have repeatedly threatened disciplinary steps against such transgressors.

First Day of Constitutional Debate Viewed

MB1712194093 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1711 GMT 17 Dec 93

[By Lorraine Braid]

[Text] Parliament Dec 17 SAPA—In the last decade of the century the interim constitution had given the opportunity to correct that which started going wrong in the first decade, the minister of economic enterprises and chief National Party negotiator, Dr Dawie de Villiers, said on Friday. Speaking during the first day of a marathon four-day debate on the interim constitution negotiated at the multi-party talks, he said the political hernia which had decided and torn apart the country's history could now be healed.

While he was backed in this view by speakers from all other parties in Parliament, this view was diametrically opposite to that expressed by Conservative Party [CP] members. Strong opposition to the whole document in the early stages of the debate became more bitter—accompanied by threats of armed resistance—as the day wore on.

CP leader Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg complained that no referendum had been held to test public opinion of the constitution nor had it been published with time for general comment. The document contained nothing about federalism but "fitted the South African Communist Party like a glove." There was nothing in the whole process for true democrats.

There are several former preachers in the house and there was much theological debate about biblical justification for armed resistance. Mr Wynand van Wyk (CP Witbank) and others objected to the preamble not recognising the Holy Trinity but only stating "in humble submission to Almighty God." The Democratic Party's [DP] Mr Hennie Bester pointed out that precisely the same words are contained in the preamble to the 1983 constitution.

Mr Pieter Groenewald (CP Stilfontein) said the revenge of the Afrikaner nation "will not spare you, your wife nor your children."

In contrast, Mr David Curry (DP Pniel) said he did not want to cry over the graves of fellow South Africans.

"Religion is a binding factor, not a reason to fight over. Look at Yugoslavia and Bosnia—do you want to spend Christmas and sing Silent Night, Holy Night there?"

"I don't want to die for democracy, I want to live for it."

Leader of the opposition in the House of Delegates Kisten Moodley said the debate represented the first time in the country's history where the ruling party was changing course. Those writing the history of South Africa would have no choice but to note that President F W de Klerk had been the one to set the process on its way.

Three Independent MP's Leave Parliament

MB1812172893 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1505 GMT 18 Dec 93

[By Dirk van Zyl]

[Text] Cape Town Dec 18 SAPA—With the likelihood of a "no room at the inn" sign being out for unaligned MPs in South Africa's new National Assembly, independent MPs in the out-going Parliament are scurrying to make their destinies known. On Saturday, during debate on the new interim constitution, three members of this endangered species informed Parliament of their decisions:

—Mr Chris de Jager, MP for Bethal, said he was opting out of politics;

—Mr Koos van der Merwe, Overvaal, announced he was joining the Inkatha Freedom party; and

—Mr Hansie Christians, Ravensmead, said he was making his last speech in Parliament.

Mr de Jager, a former Conservative Party member, is resuming a law practice. Mr Christians said he would urge people to vote for the National Party. Mr de Jager said there was no room in Parliament for those "not harnessed in caucus decisions".

Independents were not readily heard—so much so that they had finally been written out of the new constitution.

Article 43 (b) of the constitution states that if a member of the National Assembly resigns from the party which nominated him—or is expelled—he also ceases to be an MP.

Pleas have been made, by, among others, noted University of Cape Town political science academic Professor Andre du Toit and senior Democratic Party MP Dr Denis Worrall for this provision to be reconsidered before the constitution is passed—probably next Wednesday.

—the minister of correctional services, Mr Adriaan Vlok, also announced he was retiring from politics.

CP Leader Calls For White Referendum on New Constitution

MB1712193493 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1500 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] During today's parliamentary debate on the interim constitution Conservative Party [CP] Leader Ferdi Hartzenberg challenged State President F.W. de Klerk to call a referendum among white voters to survey their views on the new constitution. He says in fact a referendum for whites to take place before 22 February 1994 should be written in the [word indistinct].

Hartzenberg says the majority of people in 250 towns and areas surveyed by the CP and Afrikaner Volksfront [Afrikaner National Front] to be part of a volkstaat [Afrikaner state] and not of the new South Africa. He told De Klerk that more than 80 percent of voters in the House of Assembly don't want the new constitution. Hartzenberg says the new constitution had been decided by communists and made for communists.

ANC, AVF Said Close to Agreement on Self-Determination

MB1912120793 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English 19 Dec 93 p 3

[Report by David Breier]

[Text] The ANC [African National Congress] and Afrikaner Volksfront [Afrikaner National Front, AVF] are close to an agreement on Afrikaner self-determination. The extraordinary breakthrough was to have been announced this weekend but last-minute hitches delayed

the agreement, sources close to the talks revealed. The agreement is intended to cover the demand by the AVF for self-determination for ethnic groups, especially for a Volkstaat [National State].

This follows a "bosberaad" earlier this year between the ANC and AVF which was followed up by a joint visit to study government systems in Belgium and Switzerland.

Key negotiators thrashing out the agreement include ANC constitutional expert Penuel Maduna and CP [Conservative Party] MP Corne Mulder.

The secret negotiations also involved a mutual non-aggression pact in the coming elections, which the FA [Freedom Alliance] is expected to take part in despite its current boycott stance. However, it is understood the announcement was delayed because of the absence of senior rightwingers, including Ferdi Hartzenberg, who are taking part in the parliamentary debate on the new constitution.

Right-wing sources said the deadlines facing the FA because of the imminent passing of the constitution on Wednesday had put pressure on negotiations with the ANC. Negotiations between the FA and the Government to amend the constitution appeared to be running out of time.

Minister of Constitution and Development Roelf Meyer said FA leaders had sought a meeting with President de Klerk on Monday but he told them it was too late because the Parliamentary debate was due to end tomorrow. Instead, senior IFP member Ben Ngubane and his MPs held discussions, and FA chairman Rowan Cronje was also due in the city. But a Government spokesman said there was no point in talking to them as this would merely lead to further delays as they consulted their leaders.

Reach 'Strategic Interim Agreement'

MB2012090093 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0850 GMT 20 Dec 93

[Text] Pretoria Dec 20 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] and Afrikaner Volksfront [National Front—AVF] have reached a strategic interim agreement which could have far-reaching effects on the mutual relationship between conservative Afrikaners and the ANC.

This follows almost four months of regular discussions between the two parties, according to a statement issued on their behalf by facilitators after a joint meeting in Pretoria at the weekend. The statement, issued on Monday, said the agreement could, subject to its fruition into a detailed final accord, open the way for the AVF to participate in interim constitutional structures and the April 27 general election. "In terms of the agreement, both parties are in support of the introduction of a non-racial democracy in South Africa. They also see the need to seek ways to address the desire of many Afrikaners for self-determination in a 'volkstaat' [Afrikaner homeland]."

The statement added the memorandum of agreement would be signed by the negotiating teams and their leaders at a Johannesburg venue at 10 AM on Tuesday.

Buthelezi Says IFP Will Not Serve in Same Force as MK

MB1812102593 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] KwaZulu leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi says the kwaZulu Police will not be integrated with MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe—African National Congress, ANC, military wing] in one security force. MK said yesterday that it was to disband and would be integrated into the proposed new security force. Dr. Buthelezi said MK was still murdering IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] members, and for that reason IFP members would not serve with MK members.

[Begin Buthelezi recording in English] So we have a very serious problem about the integration of Umkhonto we Sizwe if the whole issue of violence between the ANC and IFP is not resolved; because I cannot understand how anyone would imagine that members of the IFP for example would regard some people that killed them during the night and during the day regard them as a peace-keeping force. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

Roelf Meyer Warns Freedom Alliance as Meeting Ends

MB1812191193 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1800 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] Mr. Roelf Meyer warned the Freedom Alliance delegation this evening that Monday would be the last day to introduce any amendments to the constitution bill. A meeting between Mr. Meyer and negotiators from Bophuthatswana, the Inkatha Freedom Party, and the Ciskei government ended a short while ago and followed unsuccessful efforts to bring together the leaders of the Freedom Alliance and State President F.W. de Klerk.

Freedom Alliance Leaders' Statement on Constitution

MB1412072093 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2334 GMT 13 Dec 93

["Statement of the Leaders" of the Freedom Alliance, 13 December 1993, on the SAPA PR wire service] [Text] 1. The Freedom Alliance [FA] reiterates that it is committed to: (a) an all-inclusive constitutional settlement in order to assure long lasting peace and democracy in southern Africa; (b) achieving such settlement through peaceful negotiations by exploring all possible avenues.

2. Although the Freedom Alliance has engaged in constructive bilateral negotiations with the SA [South African] Government [SAG] reaching commonality on some fundamental constitutional concerns and related matters set out in a list dated 16 November 1993, some important issues, including those which resulted from

last moment changes to the draft constitution adopted at the multiparty conference, remain to be solved between the relevant parties.

3. The following fundamental issues are to be finally agreed upon a multiparty basis. Paragraphs 3.1 to 3.4 have been on the agenda which have been discussed and on which commonality has been reached.

3.1 The powers, functions and boundaries of provinces and related matters shall ensure the autonomy of the provinces. A reformulates Section 126 and Schedule 6, regarding the said powers and functions, have been agreed upon in principle between the FA and the SAG. Final agreement on this item implies consequential amendments to the draft constitution, including provincial policing, public service and local government and territorial defence.

3.2 Provinces shall have guaranteed fiscal and financial autonomy at least as set out in the reformulated Sections 155 to 159 agreed between the FA and the SAG. Final agreement on this item shall imply consequential amendments to the draft constitution.

3.3 Provision shall be made for provincial constitutions on the basis of a reformulated Section 160 as proposed by the FA and annexed hereto as annexure a (including consequential amendments to Sections 161 and 164). The case of Bophuthatswana's constitution and its constitutional position is to receive special attention.

3.4 The integrity of the provinces, the existence of the fundamental rights set out in Chapter 3 and the role of the constitutional court in constitution-making shall be guaranteed as provided for in the amendments to Sections 71, 73 and 74 proposed as per Annexure b. Clause 28 (2) to be redrawn so as to ensure that the word "deprivation" is limited to expropriation of property and would not include confiscation.

The following issues have resulted from last minute changes to the draft constitution adopted at the multiparty process:

3.5 The voting system shall be based on two ballot papers for the national and provincial elections respectively. Final agreement on this item shall include amendments to Schedule 2 of the draft constitution and the relevant provisions to the electoral bill.

3.6 Members of provincial legislatures shall be ordinarily resident in the province concerned. Section 132 (1) shall be amended accordingly.

3.7 Only South African citizens shall be entitled to vote in the elections. Section 6 (a) (ii) is to be deleted and consequential deletions from the electoral bill are required.

3.8 Of the 400 members of the National Assembly, 200 shall be elected from only provincial lists of party candidates. Section 40 (2) shall be re-introduced and Schedule 2 shall be amended accordingly.

3.9 The assets of the existing TVBC [Transkei - Bophuthatswana - Venda - Ciskei] states and self-governing territories relating to the powers and functions of a new province shall at the date of commencement of the constitution vest in such province. Section 239 shall be amended accordingly.

3.10 Until the new provincial governments come into being the SAG and all other authorities shall honour all arrangements, agreements, treaties and obligations (including budgeting) in respect of the TBVC states and self-governing territories as well as the integrity of the said entities. Section 235 and schedule 7 as well as the TEC [Transitional Executive Council] Act of 1993 shall be amended accordingly.

3.11 The realisation of the right to self-determination of the Afrikaner, the case of Bophuthatswana and other peoples on territorial bases are discussed by a sub-committee of the Freedom Alliance presently negotiating with the ANC/SACP [South African Communist Party] alliance, shall be provided for in the constitutional draft, schedules 1 and 4 shall be amended accordingly.

3.12 The name of the province kwaZulu-Natal shall be re-introduced instead of "Natal" *inter alia* to reflect the position of the kingdom of kwaZulu. Section 124 and Schedules 1 and 2 shall be amended accordingly.

3.13 Controlling violence and intimidation is a prerequisite for the holding of free and fair elections and any electoral process. All major parties shall be responsible and accountable to achieve this result. Legislation shall provide for the necessary structuring and accountability in respect thereof.

3.14 Final agreement in respect of paragraphs 3.1 to 3.13 above shall be reached before the passing of the draft constitution by parliament. 4. If and when - (a) final agreement in respect of paragraph 3 above is reached; and (b) the total package of agreements, including the improved draft constitution and related measures regarding the period until the provincial governments come into power, is approved by the respective decision-making bodies of the FA members, such as the cabinets, parliaments and/or political party governing bodies concerned.

The FA would accept that the fundamental prerequisites for participation in any elections and related constitutional arrangements have been met, and would commit itself to participation in such constitutional process.

Annexure A:

1. 160

(1) The provincial legislature shall be entitled to pass a constitution for the province by a majority of at least two-thirds of its members; provided that such constitution may regulate otherwise any matter provided for in this constitution relating to the structure, powers and functions of the provinces; provided further that such constitution shall be consistent with the provisions of

Chapter 3, Section 126 and Sections 155 to 159 of this constitution as well as the constitutional principles set out in Schedule 4.

(2) As drafted (in the constitutional draft)

(3) The constitutional assembly shall, subject to the provisions of Section 61 and 62 and notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 5, be entitled to regulate affairs relating to provinces only to the extent that such regulation is not inconsistent with the constitution passed by a province, provided that such regulation shall (a) Comply with the constitutional principles set out in

Schedule 4;

(b) Be approved by two-thirds majority of all the members of every provincial legislature concerned; and (c) Be certified by the constitutional court as to consistency with the said constitutional principles.

(4) The text of a provincial constitution passed by the provincial legislature shall be of no force and effect unless the constitutional court has certified that it is not inconsistent with a provision referred to in sub-section (1); provided that the decision of the constitutional court to certify shall be taken on the basis of received evidence and arguments presented before that court, which certification shall be given within thirty days of the provincial constitution being referred to the court, failing which the provincial constitution will come into force and effect.

(5) As drafted. 2. Section 161 is to be amended to add an additional sub-section which reads: "(6) the provisions of this section shall apply only to the extent that a province has not adopted its provincial constitution in terms of section 160 or to the extent that it is not otherwise provided for in a law of a province."

South African Press Review for 17 December

MB1712154793

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Support for Transitional Executive Council, TEC—An editorial on page 10 of the 17 December issue of Johannesburg THE STAR in English expresses support both for the TEC's efforts to require the kwaZulu Government to provide information on the alleged death squads within its police ranks and for the TEC's suspension of a Development Bank loan to Bophuthatswana. The editorial ends, however, with a caveat: "The first targets of the TEC are members of the Freedom Alliance, which is not part of the cosy partnership between the NP [National Party] and the ANC [African National Congress]. The TEC must respond with the same vigour in dealing with, say, the threat to the free elections posed by intolerant bigots in the ANC-aligned Sanco [South African National Civic Organization]."

BUSINESS DAY

Concern About TEC's Actions—The same TEC actions are also the subject of the editorial in Johannesburg **BUSINESS DAY** in English on 17 December on page 6. The editorial cautions: "Perceptions matter, and a body founded on the need to establish fairness, equity and equal political opportunity ahead of next year's elections must not allow itself to be seen as a council of vengeance." The editorial sees the TEC's actions directed, not against kwaZulu and Bophuthatswana, but toward the central government. The TEC "is marking out its own areas of power, and is keen to show that these are more extensive than government claims." The TEC is urged "to find other targets, and quickly, to show it is a principled watchdog, not the ruling clique's obedient poodle."

Tax and Wealth—"Wealth tax proposals by the ANC alliance to fund what is becoming popularly known as economic reconstruction are, at present, simply proposals," but "taxation policy will be crucial to South Africa's ability to attract investment and to create consistent growth," an editorial in Johannesburg **BUSINESS DAY** in English on 14 December on page 4 notes. "A wealth tax could easily enjoy popular support," but "its flaw is that it could be too narrowly defined to be effective and raise the amounts needed for the social programmes likely to be initiated by a new government. We believe reconstruction to mean a spread of wealth through sustained growth rather than redistribution by soaking the 'rich'." "We would suggest that social programmes and other state spending needs should be financed by annual increases in the VAT [value added tax] rate coupled with cuts in direct taxes to encourage business development."

CAPE TIMES

Democratic Party, DP, Concerns About Constitution—The Cape Town **CAPE TIMES** in English, in an editorial on page 8 of its 13 December issue, praises the DP for having "committed itself to securing a federal constitution." The editorial notes that the DP has identified "shortcomings" in the interim constitution that suit the ANC and the NP but are not in the national interest: "As things stand, the interim constitution gives too much power to party bosses who will be able to expel members of parliament they believe are not sticking to the party line....While such an arrangement appears to suit the ANC, it is certainly not favourable to liberal democracy. The DP plans to ensure that it is the voters and the parties who directly determine who will represent them. They will also fight for two ballots to give voters a proper choice at the regional and national levels." DP success, the editorial concludes, is in the interest of liberal democracy.

SOWETAN

Constitutional Process—"The constitutional process is beginning to look like an express train gaining speed and the tabling of the interim constitution in Parliament today is likely to add to its momentum," the second

editorial in the Johannesburg **SOWETAN** in English on 17 December on page 10 states. "The inexorable constitutional process is causing a scurrying outside Parliament, especially in the recalcitrant Freedom Alliance which is beginning to show strain and its lack of cohesiveness" and "it is inevitable, as the pressure mounts, that the various components of the alliance will hive off in different directions."

Press Review for 19 Dec

MB1912150893

[Editorial Report]

SUNDAY STAR

New Parliament—"The tired and discredited tricameral Parliament is due to vote itself out of existence on Wednesday—341 years after Van Riebeeck began white rule," an editorial in Johannesburg **SUNDAY STAR** in English on 19 December on page 26 notes. While "this Parliament has always been a symbol of oppression for the majority since the 1910 Constitution," "it had something of priceless value that the new Parliament must inherit if democracy is to succeed. This is the honorable tradition of opposition and vigilance that anti-apartheid parties maintained in the dark years after 1948." "It is vital that this watchdog tradition thrives in the new dispensation. For no ruling party, however democratically elected, is immune to oppression and corruption that so often come with power."

SUNDAY TIMES

Taking Stock—As the South African Parliament "will adopt a constitution that ends white political domination," "it is time to take stock," an editorial in the Johannesburg **SUNDAY TIMES** in English on 19 December on page 24 concludes. "The elections have infused the country with a new assurance" and "this assurance is seen in the economic life of the country." "Politically, too, the trend is optimistic" and the "urban communities are being slowly stabilised." The international community "stands sympathetically on the sidelines." "And "despite the most enormous pressures, the institutions of state stand reasonably firm. The army and the police are loyal, if incompetent, the courts function, albeit imperfectly, taxes are collected, more or less, and the trains run, sometimes even on schedule." "Measured against this, the sound and thunder of politicians on the election trail is newsworthy but actually incidental." The new constitution "is a barely credible vehicle to carry us to the future. But it is the best we have." "It will fall to the vigilance of citizens and communities to improve that constitution and to protect their rights in the future." "Christmas 1993 has brought a remarkable gift: the opportunity to build a new African nation that is democratic, successful and admired."

SUNDAY NATION

Impartial Police Force Needed—"As we enter 1994 - the year of elections or the year of freedom for the majority of

South Africans - we are full of hope," an editorial in Johannesburg *SUNDAY NATION* in English on 19 December on page 10 notes. "We have to succeed in bringing violence to an end; hold free and fair elections and guarantee economic stability so that we can firmly be on the road to alleviating poverty and inequalities." As "no party can claim to have come out with all it wanted from the Kempton Park talks" and as "all parties stand to gain from the outcome of these talks," "we therefore expect the Freedom Alliance to enter 1994 with the determination to work for the well-being of the South African nation by joining the process." "For all those eager to be free and live in a prosperous country, violence will only serve to delay the attainment of this goal." "We hope the instruments of law enforcement will make their contribution as well." And if the police continue "being partial, they will certainly fail to defend the democratic society that is now being built in our country."

Press Review for 20 Dec

MB2012134393

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Warning Against 'Rabble-Rousing' Rhetoric—Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 20 December in a page 12 editorial finds South African Communist Party, SACP, leader Ronnie Kasrils has "unbelievable cheek" for threatening to put Ciskei leader Oupa Gqozo on trial for the "'murder of 28 comrades' during the 1992 Bisho massacre," when a democratically elected government comes into power. The paper points out that Kasrils was "severely criticised by two judicial commissions of inquiry into the massacre." They found that "ANC [African National Congress]-SACP leaders, Kasrils prominent among them, were irresponsible, reckless with the lives of their followers and disingenuous." Therefore, "if Kasrils has legal criticisms of Gqozo's acquittal, let him state them clearly and soberly. To fulminate against a court verdict on personal or political grounds is highly dangerous. Rabble-rousing rhetoric aimed at judges or courts which deliver unpopular verdicts should have no place in a democratic South Africa. The safety of all South Africans depends on respect for the due process of law."

Buthelezi Unrecognizable in Right-Wing Company—On the same page, Kaizer Nyatumba writes in the "One in Your Eye" column: "As the transitional process draws towards its conclusion, the Right—ably assisted by some self-serving homeland leaders—has become increasingly bellicose, and threats of civil war have fallen like thunder from their mouths in recent months. And yet it is with the self-same Right that Buthelezi has thrown in his lot in the inappropriately named Freedom Alliance and its forerunner, the Concerned South Africans Group. Buthelezi, who once so bravely stood up to former State President P.W. Botha, is now almost unrecognisable in the midst of the rightwing whose company he seems to enjoy."

BUSINESS DAY

Criticism of Glorification of MK Armed Struggle—"Aside from a few incidents of 'armed propaganda' which helped build the ANC's political reputation, MK's [Umkhonto we Sizwe—ANC military wing] contribution to ending apartheid was minute compared with the main factors which forced the NP [National Party] to change course—the economic costs of the system and the mobilisation at home of people against it," notes a page 4 editorial in Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 20 December. "It is not only in the interests of historical accuracy that the glorification of the armed struggle is a questionable pursuit. As yesterday's freedom fighters become part of the establishment, elements of yesterday's establishment threatened by democracy may be tempted into some heroics of their own. They cannot win militarily, just as the ANC could not. But the new 'freedom fighters' could become a serious nuisance, inspired by ANC claims that armed struggle has achieved its goal in South Africa once before."

SOWETAN

PAC Viable Alternative to ANC in Future—Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 20 December in a page 8 editorial welcomes the Pan-Africanist Congress, PAC, decision to participate in the 27 April elections. "There can be little doubt that the PAC will emerge as a major political force in the years ahead and strengthen our multi-party system. Initially, it is likely to be a parliamentary opposition to an ANC-dominated government and play the role of watchdog and promoter of the interests of especially the African majority in urban and rural areas. The PAC's strategists have clearly seen next year's election as an ideal platform for a party that could in 1999 or beyond become a viable alternative to the ANC."

Angola

UNITA Representatives Boycott Angolan Talks

AB1712182393 Dakar PANA in English 1232 GMT
17 Dec 93

[Text] Lusaka, 17 Dec (PANA)—Negotiators from the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) continued their boycott, for the fifth consecutive day Friday [17 December], of the United Nations-brokered peace talks in Lusaka with the Angolan Government delegation.

Angola's Ambassador to Zambia Pedro Fernando Mavunza told PANA Friday that he was in touch with his government's delegation but that nothing was forthcoming from the UNITA side. "Up to now nothing is happening with our friends," said Mavunza.

UNITA is boycotting what political observers and diplomats in the Zambian capital have dubbed as "make or break" month-long talks. The movement is protesting against an alleged attempt by the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) to assassinate its leader, Jonas Savimbi in Cuito, Angola last weekend. It has demanded an apology from the Angolan Government and a promise that its forces would not engage in any further attacks while the discussions were in progress. [Words indistinct] the government has vehemently denied the charge and instead accused UNITA of fabricating the incident as an excuse to walk out on the talks.

A government statement issued by Luanda Tuesday said that UNITA resorted to this tactic to divert international public opinion and recalled that the movement had in the past derailed similar efforts, notably the recent peace talks in Addis Ababa and Abidjan. It said that the boycott was meant to evade the second phase of United Nations Security Council sanctions that were to be evoked within this week. They were to include freezing of UNITA assets abroad and a ban on international travel of its officials.

On Thursday, the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) issued a denial in Luanda that its men had engaged in any military activity Saturday in the area cited by UNITA.

Diplomatic observers in the Zambian capital had expected an early major "breakthrough" to end Angola's 18-year conflict, which is described as the world's bloodiest war with an average of 100 people dying daily.

The talks are being supervised by United Nations special envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, who is understood to have returned to Lusaka Wednesday after a brief visit to Angola to investigate the alleged assassination attempt on Savimbi.

The Angolan delegation has said it is prepared to remain in Lusaka until UNITA returned to the talks. Unita resumed fighting more than a year ago after losing the September 1992 elections to the MPLA.

Pledges Not To Derail Talks

AB1712201693 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830
GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] The Angolan peace talks in Lusaka have still not resumed. There is however a ray of hope: UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has pledged not to derail the present talks.

At the same time, an inquiry under the auspices of the UN will open in Luanda to thoroughly investigate UNITA's accusations concerning a plan to assassinate rebel leader Jonas Savimbi. Toussaint Ngombe has the rest of the story:

[Ngombe] Once again, it is the rebel movement which is pointing accusing fingers at the Angolan Government. This movement blames the 13 December air raid on the Angolan government which, it believes, ordered the military to bomb a crowd of civilians who were attending a rally held by Jonas Savimbi at Cuito in the center of the country. Even though denied by the government, this incident led to an immediate suspension of the Angolan talks, which had been going on over the past month in the Zambian capital. At any rate, a commission of inquiry charged with ascertaining the truth of UNITA's allegation has been set up by the UN on the initiative of the mediator, Alioune Blondin Beye. This commission is expected to leave shortly for Cuito to begin its assignment.

In another development, a UN military observer team in Angola has held talks in Luanda with military leaders from the Angolan Armed Forces, with a view to examining the terms and conditions for the inquiry. For its part, the government JOURNAL DE ANGOLA newspaper accuses UNITA of machinations, believing that this rebel movement went to Lusaka only to escape UN sanctions.

Independent Investigators To Examine Attempt on Savimbi

MB1812202893 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo
Negro in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] Reports from London say that an independent team of investigators has left for Bie today to investigate the seriousness of an attempt on the life of His Excellency Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, president of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], by the Luanda government on 11 December 1993. According to the source, the team which is made up of U.S., Russian, and Portuguese experts, will visit the site of the incident and hear the truth from eyewitnesses and subsequently blame Luanda for the incident.

U.S. Supports Inquiry

MB1812201893 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo
Negro in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] The United States supports sending a United Nations commission of inquiry to Bie to investigate the

truth about accusations by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] of an attempt on the life of its president on 11 December. This is contained in a letter that George Moose, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, sent to President Jonas Savimbi.

George Moose said he had drafted the letter on behalf of President Bill Clinton. What is more, he reveals that the United States viewed very seriously the incident which took place in Bie. George Moose said the White House's concerns have already been communicated to the Luanda government.

He pointed out, however, that whatever the results of the commission's investigations, the United States hope that both the Luanda government and UNITA will continue to be engaged in the peace process. He said and we quote, nothing is more important than to guarantee reaching an agreement in Lusaka that would lead to peace. With the nearing of the festive season, we call on UNITA and the Luanda government to continue with the peace talks to grant the Angolan people the best present, that is peace, unquote. It should be noted that very recently Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi sent a letter to the White House expressing his party's concerns and requesting greater involvement of the international community in the search for peace in Angola.

MPLA Accused of Hindering Inquiry

MB1812160293 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Gato Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] The Angolan peace talks in Lusaka are still at a standstill because the Luanda regime, as is well known, recently carried out an attempt on the life of the president of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] while he was visiting Bie. Independent sources contacted by the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel said the regime's action was just a strategy to thwart the progress of the peace talks, since the Futungo de Belas has very little or no interest in mutual coexistence with other Angolan political parties.

The Futungo de Belas clique has been hindering the progress of the Angolan peace talks by not allowing a delegation from the UN Angola Verification Mission [Unavem]-2, established to investigate the attack by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] on 12 December, to freely visit the site of the incident. Our sources also said that the MPLA-PT's desire to take part in peace negotiations is a farce since it only wanted to gain time in order to better orchestrate its macabre plans aimed at eliminating the UNITA leadership and finally eliminating the party, as it intended to do in Luanda in October and November last year, when thousands and thousands of Angolans directly or indirectly linked to UNITA were executed, cremated, and buried in common graves.

In conclusion, the sources requested the international community to use its influence on the MPLA-PT to force

it to change its behavior and to strongly engage in searching for a lasting solution to establish peace in Angola.

Team Concludes No Attempt Made

MB2012065993 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 Dec 93

[Text] The UN team which went to Cuito to investigate the incident of 11 December returned to Lusaka yesterday. Apparently, its findings are that there was no attempt on the life of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] president. During its visit to Cuito, the UN team contacted government and UNITA officials, and visited the spot where UNITA alleges the attempt on Jonas Savimbi's life took place.

UN sources have disclosed that there was indeed an air attack against a well defined military target, but they added it would be impossible to regard it as an attempt on anyone's life.

Government Reports 'Heavy' Fighting Northeast of Luanda

MB1812144893 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 18 Dec 93

[Text] Angola's government has reported heavy fighting with UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels north of the capital Luanda and in other parts of the country.

The fighting comes as peace talks remain stalled. Military sources say there were intense clashes northeast of Luanda. The sources also reported heavy fighting in eastern Luanda [as heard]. No more details are available and the reports could not be independently confirmed. Diplomats in Luanda say month-long peace talks with UNITA, in the Zambian capital Lusaka, are stalled and are unlikely to produce agreement before Christmas. UNITA has, over the past week, boycotted the negotiations accusing the government of trying to kill its leader Jonas Savimbi in an air raid near the city of Cuito last weekend.

The peace talks are aimed at ending 18 years of civil war in the southern African country.

Fierce Fighting Between Army, UNITA Occurs in Bengo Province

AB1712213793 Paris AFP in French 2040 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] Luanda 17 Dec (AFP)—The National Army announced that fierce fighting took place this evening between the Angolan Armed Forces and UNITA troops in the northern sectors of Bengo Province, some 60 km north of Luanda. During the week, there were clashes at Canacassala and around Lifune and Loa, according to an official spokesman. Since the disruption of the Angolan peace talks in Lusaka, Zambia, military chiefs in Luanda

have been expecting a fresh escalation of fighting. Earlier this week, six civilian vehicles were destroyed at Tchi-quete in the oil-rich Cabinda Province (far north). The incident was blamed on separatists from the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave [FLEC]-Cabinda Armed Forces, a hard-line FLEC faction led by Nzita Tiago. The fighting between the separatists and regular troops is reported to have left four rebels dead, with four others captured, according to the government.

Dos Santos Leaves for Harare Summit Meeting

MB1912193893 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Text] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos left the country today for Harare, Zimbabwe, to attend a summit meeting of the Frontline States which will examine the Angolan conflict and the transition processes in Mozambique and South Africa. In the case of Angola, the Frontline leaders will hold an informal meeting with Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general, who is already in Harare. According to observers, the Harare summit will encourage the negotiators in the Angolan peace process to resume the peace talks suspended by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] for an alleged attempt on the life of Jonas Savimbi in Cuito one week ago.

Comoros

Second Round of Legislative Elections 'Called Off'

AB1912100293 Paris AFP in English 0947 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Text] Moroni, Dec 19 (AFP)—The second round of legislative elections in the Comoros was abruptly called off Sunday [19 December] throughout the archipelago without any official explanation. The elections, which should originally have been held 40 days after President Said Mohamed Djohar dissolved the federal assembly on June 18, have already been postponed four times. The first round finally went ahead last Sunday.

Although no reason for this latest cancellation was given, two candidates in the government camp have demanded the poll be put back in the capital Moroni. They are Mohamed Said Abdallah M'Changama, former finance minister, leader of the Mwangaza party and son-in-law of President Djohar, and Mouzawoir Abdallah, leader of the Uwezo party.

Official sources said the cabinet held an emergency meeting Sunday morning in Moroni. The president of the electoral commission Darouèche Abdallah was said to have resigned in response to the demands for a postponement.

An Islamic party, the National Front for Justice, emerged as a front-runner in the first round of voting, contested by 24 parties fielding 214 candidates for 42 seats.

Djohar became the first democratically elected Comoran head of state in March 1990 and his supporters took 31 of the seats in the Indian Ocean archipelago's first multi-party poll last December. But internal divisions put Djohar and his successive governments in a precarious position and his opponents were expected to win this latest election.

Legislative Elections Resume

AB2012095293 Paris AFP in English 0938 GMT 20 Dec 93

[Text] Moroni, Dec 20 (AFP)—The second round of legislative elections on the Comoro Islands, abruptly called off on Sunday [19 December] without official explanation, resumed on Monday except in two constituencies here in the capital.

The elections, which should originally have been held 40 days after President Said Mohamed Djohar dissolved the federal assembly on June 18, had been postponed four times. The first round finally went ahead the Sunday before last.

Although no reason for the latest cancellation was given, two candidates in the government camp had asked for the poll to be postponed in their constituencies in Moroni, and a fresh date remains to be fixed.

They are Mohamed Said Abdallah M'Changama, former finance minister, leader of the Mwangaza Party and son-in-law of President Djohar, and Mouzawoir Abdallah, leader of the Uwezo party.

Official sources said the cabinet held an emergency meeting Sunday morning in Moroni.

The president of the electoral commission, Darouèche Abdallah, was said to have resigned in response to the demands for a postponement.

An Islamic party, the National Front for Justice, emerged as a front-runner in the first round of voting, contested by 24 parties fielding 214 candidates for 42 seats.

Djohar became the first democratically elected Comoran head of state in March 1990 and his supporters took 31 of the seats in the Indian Ocean archipelago's first multi-party poll last December. But internal divisions put Djohar and his successive governments in a precarious position and his opponents were expected to win this latest election.

Mozambique

Dhlakama Says Attempt on Life Could Undermine Peace Process

MB1912164593 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1500 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Text] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama said in Nampula today that the

implementation of the General Peace Accord, particularly the confinement of Renamo troops, could be undermined in the country. Dhlakama was speaking to the news media about an alleged attempt on his life in Nampula this morning.

Radio Mozambique in Nampula revealed that this morning Renamo leadership in Nampula detained three individuals accused of trying to murder the Renamo president in a crowd in front of the Provincial Assembly building where a meeting was to take place with religious officials, economic agents, and intellectuals. From these individuals Renamo seized two pistols and two transmitting radios. Another suspect is in the hands of the police. After being discovered, the four were assaulted by the people, then rescued by the police. At the time of the incident, the Renamo leader was not at the site.

Rafael Piripi, chief of the general staff of the police of the Republic of Mozambique, then told journalists that he had posted two armed police agents, dressed in civilian clothes, to cooperate with Renamo security to avoid the repetition of anti-Dhlakama demonstrations which took place at the airport last Thursday [16 December], immediately after his arrival in Nampula.

The Renamo leader denied there was such a coordination. According to Dhlakama, it was a plan orchestrated by the police to end his life. Speaking to journalists, Dhlakama said the duty of the police is to maintain order and public security through men who are duly armed and in uniform. He said it is not the duty of the chief of the general staff of the police to send armed civilian men. He said this is the work of the Criminal Investigation Police.

Frelimo Officials Deny Dhlakama Accusations

MB1912190893 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Text] At the 25 September Stadium in the city of Nampula this afternoon, Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama presided over a rally which more than 4,000 people attended. At the rally General Eduardo Nihia, first provincial secretary of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party in Nampula, and Alfredo Gamito, Nampula provincial governor, were accused of being behind an attempt on Dhlakama's life.

Contacted early this evening, General Eduardo Nihia described these allegations by the Renamo leader and sympathizers as without foundation. Nihia said neither the government nor Frelimo want to kill Dhlakama. He said and we quote, Dhlakama cannot try to free himself from crimes committed by his movement, by directing accusations on the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] and the government, unquote.

General Nihia then said that the Renamo president should thank the Frelimo Party, which urged the people not to create hatred of his organization. He said this does

not exclude, however, the possibility of citizens freely deciding whether or not to support Renamo.

During this afternoon's rally, Dhlakama once again said the war has ended and if his organization wins, it will not punish the present Frelimo leaders.

Dhlakama Emphasizes Peace in Speech to Crowd

MB2012120593 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 20 Dec 93

[Report from Nampula by Radio Mozambique correspondent Boaventura Makaulza]

[Excerpts] The Police of the Republic in Nampula Province yesterday presented a communique to the media saying that the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] had detained four of its men in connection with an alleged attempt on Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama's life. That document says the men were Deputy Superintendent Rafael Filipe, Officer Cadet Cabral Bola, and First Sergeants Carlitos Inacio and (Santos Kwejerkele). [passage omitted]

The Police of the Republic are demanding the release of Sgt. (Santos Kwejerkele) who, at least until yesterday afternoon, was being held naked and tied with rope at the house where Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama is staying. In a telephone call at about 0830 [0630 GMT] today, (Jorge Calo), commander of the Police of the Republic in Nampula Province, said that Sgt. (Kwejerkele) was still under detention and being tortured by Renamo security officials. The other police sergeant was beaten up by Renamo men yesterday. He has suffered serious injury and he is in the care of the police. The other police officials were released yesterday.

Renamo has said it will keep Sgt. (Kwejerkele) to continue its investigation. The Police Command for Nampula Province has said that Renamo does not have authority to detain, let alone question or torture, anybody.

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama yesterday chaired a rally attended by more than 4,000 people at the 25 September stadium. He left the people with the following message:

[Begin Dhlakama recording] Afonso Dhlakama wants peace. I had to take to the jungle because the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] itself forced me to do so. Once Frelimo had signed the accord, Afonso Dhlakama no longer needed to wage war. Are you hearing me? I do not want war. I do not want any more war. The Mozambican people will participate in free and democratic elections in our country for the first time ever next year. That is good, because Frelimo will also be taking part. If it loses, it must wait. It will have to move over. Those who win will govern. So, it is up to you to decide. It is neither up to Frelimo nor to Renamo. The decision, this country's political future, depends on your choice. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Minister Comments on Dhlakama's Confinement Process Remarks

MB1912193193 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Text] In Nampula this morning Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama hinted that the attempt on his life today could negatively influence the confinement process. Armando Guebuza, transportation and communications minister and head of the government delegation to the Supervision and Control Commission [CSC] of the Rome Accord, commented on the statement.

[Begin recording] [Guebuza] There is nothing I can say about this issue because I have no information. All I can say is that the government is not at all interested in trying to murder anyone.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you think this incident could have a negative influence on the confinement process?

[Guebuza] Only Renamo can answer that question. As far as we are concerned, it is still our intention to continue with the confinement process, since it is part of an agreement signed between the two parties. [end recording]

Renamo Refuses to Hand Over Weapons in Zambezia

MB1712194193 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 17 Dec 93

[Text] The Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] refuses to hand over weapons to the Technical Unit of the UN Operations in Mozambique in (Muiua), Alto Molocue District, in Zambezia Province. This was revealed yesterday by Bonifacio Gruveta, first secretary of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party in Zambezia, at a meeting with militants and sympathizers of his party held in Quelimane.

Cote d'Ivoire**Guineans Attack Embassy in Abidjan, Demonstrate in Other Places***AB1812092293 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 17 Dec 93*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Well, it is not only in Guinea that there are protests about the forthcoming election. On Wednesday [15 December], Guineans in Senegal demonstrated at their embassy and eventually occupied it, driving the ambassador out. Now, Guineans in Ivory Coast [Cote d'Ivoire] hit their embassy in Abidjan. On the line, Robin White asked our correspondent, Ofeibea Quist-Arcton what happened.

[Begin recording] [Quist-Arcton] Apparently, at about 0800 this morning election materials, or the election equipment, was taken into the embassy. I got there at about 1030 and it seemed that everything that had been taken had been thrown out of the window. There was a carpet of ballot papers. Alpha Conde, President Lansana Conte; there were electoral everything; there was indelible ink, the sponge for putting your thumb on; everything had been tossed out of the window. It seems that about 200 people decided that they weren't happy; they hadn't been given the electoral list; they hadn't been given their voting cards; and this is how they were going to protest.

[White] Now, who organized this, if anybody?

[Quist-Arcton] I don't think that there was a definite demonstration as such. But Aboubacar Conde of the Collective of Guinean Opposition in Ivory Coast had said that the embassy had refused to make electoral lists available or to distribute voting cards. He said that had organized a meeting with the ambassador this morning but it seemed that the mob got to the embassy before they did and it looked very.... [pauses] I don't know how voting is going to be possible for Guineans because everything is on the street, I mean, people are just picking up envelopes and stealing anything they like!

[White] Have the Ivory Coast authorities taken any action at all?

[Quist-Arcton] Yes. Riot police were deployed unto the streets—not very many. But by the time I got there outside the embassy by 1030 there were a handful of them and they were sort of impatiently holding tear gas canisters which they then lobbed at the demonstrators to disperse them. But it was....[pauses] I mean they weren't very strong. It didn't seem to be very toxic, because it couldn't hurt our eye. But I think it was to disperse the crowd and then they picked up a few people, kicking them into their cars and hitting them about the heads. And then everything went quiet but we were told that the ambassador and two other diplomats were roughed up and had to be taken to hospital. I haven't been able to

confirm that it was actually the diplomats but three people—witnesses said they saw three injured people being sort of escorted out of the embassy building. [end recording]

Guinea**Presidential Elections To Take Place 19 December****New Threat From Opposition***AB1812145593 Paris AFP in English 1426 GMT
18 Dec 93*

[By Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] Conakry, Dec 18 (AFP)—A 30-party opposition umbrella grouping Saturday [18 December] denounced President Lansana Conte's decision to press ahead with Guinea's first multi-party presidential election Sunday, and issued a fresh threat to disrupt the poll.

The General States for Democratic Change accused General Conte in a communique of trying to hold on to power by "fixing the vote in advance" and threatened to "do everything possible to prevent the poll going ahead."

The statement followed repeated calls from the opposition, trades union and religious leaders, for a delay to better prepare for the poll.

All seven candidates running against Conte allege many of their supporters have not yet received voting cards which, they say, shows the vote will not be run fairly.

In Bissau, capital of neighbouring Guinea-Bissau, Guinean opposition members Saturday attacked and looted the Guinean Embassy during a demonstration protesting the failure by embassy staff there to issue voting cards, 24 hours ahead of the election, witnesses said.

Demonstrators chanting anti-Conte slogans destroyed embassy furniture and equipment and broke windows there and in nearby buildings. Police fired shots into the air but failed to disperse them.

Conte, who seized power in 1984 in a military coup, has postponed the election twice already, most recently at the beginning of the month, saying preparations were incomplete. The vote had been due to take place in 1992.

"Holding an election made-to-measure is aimed at keeping General Conte (in power) with a percentage of the vote fixed in advance," the General States group charged.

All candidates running against Conte—six of them from the opposition—have threatened to "stop the vote taking place" by driving organizers out of the constituencies.

The National Electoral Commission (CNE) charged with monitoring preparations for the vote as well as the election has also called for a fresh delay, an appeal

echoed by the Archbishop and the Imam of Conakry, both of who expressed fears over the "deteriorating social climate."

The CNE also complained that a presidential decree making the commission official had only been published 10 days before the vote which, the CNE said, prevented it from carrying out its mission.

Interior Minister Rene Alseny Gomez, reacting to the new opposition threat Saturday, told AFP, "the government knows how to do its job."

Conte, addressing 60,000 supporters here Friday, said: "Guinea has been waiting for almost two years. We must vote to put our minds at rest."

An estimated 3.2 million people are eligible to vote.

First partial results will not be known for 48 hours and the supreme court has eight days in which to validate or reject the results.

If no candidate secures more than 50 percent of the vote, a run-off will be held between the two best-placed candidates.

Despite the introduction of a multi-party system in April 1992 and the subsequent legalisation of 45 political parties, Guinea is still dominated by the president.

Legislative, executive and judicial powers are vested in the Transitional Council of National Recovery (CTRN)—all of whose members are hand-picked by Conte—is the only body empowered to pass laws.

The army is ubiquitous and more than 30 people close to the opposition have been shot dead since 1992 in clashes with security forces.

Polling Stations Open

AB1912094993 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 0730 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Excerpts] Guineans are going to the polls as of this morning to choose one of the eight candidates contesting the presidential elections. Yesterday, it was still difficult to say whether the poll would actually take place today, but polling stations opened their doors early this morning. Although President Lansana Conte, who is also contesting these elections, confirmed the date of 19 December, the opposition in general has remained skeptical. The 30 opposition parties have not yet disclosed the steps they intend to take to prevent the poll from taking place. Political parties have called for postponing the elections, mainly as a result of lack of openness. The Party of Renewal and Progress candidate said he would not take part in what he described as sham elections. [passage omitted] Ben Daouda Sylla has the details from Conakry:

[Begin recording] The Ministry of Interior has finally (?decided) that the elections will not be held in Freetown, Dakar, and Abidjan, because their preparations were

disrupted. Interior Minister Rene Alseny Gomez, who (?confirmed) the redeployment of the security forces yesterday evening, announced the creation of a Technical Vote Counting Committee charged with working out a draft report on all the results. Voters—mostly Muslims—from Khaloum district, downtown Conakry, have already started voting this morning, but the atmosphere has remained very tense in the capital's suburbs. Political parties' strategies are being implemented with tires burned at Amdalaye and tension prevailing at Madina. In short, the night was very difficult for some citizens who could not find bread to buy or vehicles for their transportation. [passage omitted] [end recording]

President Goes to Polls

AB1912231293 Conakry Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique de Guinee in French 2000 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Excerpt] Voting began effectively this morning throughout the national territory. It should be recalled that Incumbent President Lansana Conte, candidate of the Party of Unity and Progress, voted this morning at 0730 at the Almamy Samory Toure Camp. Conte talked to reporter (Cheick Sow):

[Begin recording] [Conte] As you know, my wishes have always been to see our country recover its legality in all fields. That is why, by performing my duty, as all Guineans should do, I believe that we will continue to go towards the complete democratization of our country. I wish that all Guineans would do the same. This is a civic duty that should be performed by all. In any case, right now, I have the feeling that Guineans are beginning to understand that the situation we are currently experiencing will be improved until our country is endowed with all its institutions for us to better rule the country.

[(Sow)] Mr. President, you are now at a new phase of the democratic process you initiated on 3 April 1984, when you promised to introduce democracy. Are you feeling satisfied today?

[Conte] I have a feeling of satisfaction since everything that was promised after 3 April by the Military Committee of National Redress has been carried out. Only, I should say that things did not evolve exactly as planned. Naturally, all work that is undertaken by men can be marred by mistakes, but the mistakes that took place in Guinea—notably those that led to the loss of human lives, in the name of democratization—this is something we could have avoided. But a man's work is never perfect, that is why there were some blunders. But I wish that Guineans will understand this and see the need to work hand in hand. We should all come together to build the country.

[(Sow)] Today, you have eight other candidates who are challenging you for the same presidential seat. What does this mean to you?

[Conte] This means that we are effectively on the path to democracy. It should be this way, so as to enable

Guineans to be free to choose their leader. The candidate who will be chosen will be the leader of all Guineans. That is why clashes should have been prevented from happening between the various factions. I believe this a mission we are fulfilling and that this mission should continue to be fulfilled, because presidential elections are just a step toward complete democratization. I wish a peaceful continuation for the rest of the election. [end recording]

Another presidential candidate went to the polls today. He was Mamadou Ba, leader of the Union for the New Republic. He talked to Madi Yatará:

[Begin recording] [Ba] Yes, I went to the polls and performed my duty, but with some regrets, because I am convinced that technical conditions were not met and that a lot of people were not able to obtain their voting cards—and there will certainly be difficulties during the day. Nonetheless, I hope voting booth officers will be indulgent, and as the Interior Minister said, they will understand that the point is not to apply the law blindly, but to be flexible enough for amendments.

[Yatará] Mr. President, you have just voted, but have you noted the presence of representatives of your party at the polling stations?

[Ba] No. Unfortunately, we had some difficulties and this is obvious because we planned to give rides to all our representatives and it seems they did not get there. [end recording]

Another reaction is from Mr. Siradiou Diallo, the leader and presidential candidate of the Party of Renewal and Progress [PRP] in the 19 December election.

[Begin Diallo recording] I regret to say—that it is with a broken heart—that I did not take part in the presidential election today. And I do not intend to vote in the coming hours. I was a participant in the delegates conference of democratic change, and I accepted the decisions made at this conference that included a refusal to take part in the voting. Therefore, I did not take part in the voting and I shall not take part in the election. But I know that in various constituencies, PRP activists went to the polls today either because we did not have the necessary logistics to pass the word, or because some of them saw other opposition activists go to the polls and wanted to do the same thing. What I can tell them all is that the PRP activists belong to an important party in this country. I am calling on them to remain mobilized and organized, because the life of a party as important as the PRP cannot end because of an election—and certainly not because of a single election. [end recording]

It should be noted that the leader of the Djama Party, Elhadj Mohamed Mansour Kaba, voted in Kankan this morning along with his wife.

Here in Conakry, the voting went smoothly, despite some incidents linked to technical problems. [passage omitted]

Youths Set Fire to Stations

AB1912113593 Paris AFP in English 1114 GMT
19 Dec 93

[By Bernard Degioanni]

[Excerpts] Conakry, Dec 19 (AFP)—Youths set fire to two polling stations on Sunday morning as Guinea began voting in its controversial first multi-party presidential election since independence from France in 1958.

Voters fled as the youths broke the ballot boxes before torching two polling stations in the working-class Affia district of Conakry. The military, mainly deployed in the city centre, were not at the scene. It was not immediately known who was behind the incidents although the opposition parties being allowed to take part for the first time have condemned the election and vowed to disrupt it because of alleged irregularities in its preparation.

The presidential ballot has been postponed twice. It was first announced and then called off last year when the president, Brigadier-General Lansana Conte, who seized power in 1984, announced the switch to a multi-party system. The election was then set for December 5, but again put back by two weeks because of delays in getting ballot papers to the hinterland.

Because of the country's poor communications system there was no way of finding out how voting was going in the provinces, where opposition candidates are well established.

In Conakry polling began late because of bad organisation but also because of voter inexperience. Electoral officials had to explain to voters how to cast their ballots. Some of them did not understand the need for the privacy of a polling booth.

Guineans waited patiently outside polling centres. By mid-morning, there were queues stretching out from most of the polling stations in the centre of the capital. No representatives of the opposition candidates were present at the polling centres, confirming the opposition parties boycott of what they have dismissed as "sham" elections. Often there was no representative of Conte's Unity and Progress Party either.

The country's 6,500 polling stations were due to remain open for 11 hours. The first results will not be known until Tuesday. [passage omitted on previously filed material]

Despite the introduction of the multi-party system, Conte has held a tight grip on the reins, and combines executive, legislative and judicial power in his own office.

Conte is running on the ticket of the Unity and Progress Party.

His seven opponents are Alpha Conde of the Rally of the People of Guinea, Mamdou Ba of the Union for the New Republic, Siradiou Diallo of the Renewal and Progress

Party, Facinet Toure of the National Union for the Prosperity of Guinea, Mansour Kaba of the Djama Party, Jean-Marie Dore of the Union for Progress in Guinea, and Mohamed Gassim Ghoussein, who is running for the Democratic Party of Guinea, which was former dictator Sekou Toure's party before his death prior to a military coup in March 1984.

Three Reportedly Killed

AB1912163493 Paris AFP in English 1627 GMT
19 Dec 93

[Text] Conakry, Dec 19 (AFP)—Three people were killed Sunday [19 December] in election violence in Guinea including a soldier stabbed to death by youths attempting to disrupt the country's disputed first multi-party presidential vote since independence, officials said.

The soldier was knifed in the back several times after a group of youths had set fire to a polling station in a working class suburb of the capital, one of five districts in the capital where gangs of youths armed with knives and clubs were preventing voters from casting their ballots, officials added.

Opposition groups had Saturday vowed to disrupt the twice-postponed poll which they charge incumbent Brigadier General Lansana Conte has rigged.

Several Wounded in Conakry

AB1912195193 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830
GMT 19 Dec 93

[Text] The first Guinean multiparty elections took place today against a backdrop of violence in Conakry and other towns in the country. From Conakry, Ben Daouda Sylla reports:

[Begin Sylla recording] Ballot papers scattered about, clashes between voters and security forces resulting in several dozen people seriously wounded; four persons hit by bullets or with broken skulls still at the operating theater early this evening at the [name indistinct] Hospital in Conakry. Apart from those admitted to Donka Hospital, hospital sources and others close to the Guinean Human Rights Association report five persons dead, including one soldier. Dead and wounded persons have been counted in tension areas like Hamdalaye, (Kaoudja), Koloma, (Sindouaja) and others. The suburbs, which are the stronghold of the dispersed opposition, remain cut off from the relatively peaceful Kaloum District, where electoral enthusiasm strengthens the arguments of incumbent President Lansana Conte.

In the interior of the country, a person in the prefect of Kindia—135 km from Conakry—when contacted by telephone a while ago, confirmed that the elections took place very smoothly there and in the country's other regions.

Suddenly the National Electoral Commission, the moral guarantor of the sincerity of the voting, suspended its

participation in the Vote Counting Technical Committee. In a communique to Africa No. 1 a while ago in Conakry, the members of the electoral commission renounced the vote counting exercise. The reason given by the commission is that, and I quote, the voting is not peaceful, unquote. [end recording]

Government Extends Voting Hours

AB1912205693 Conakry Radiodiffusion Nationale de la
Republique de Guinee in French 2000 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Statement by Rene Alseny Gomez, Minister of interior and security—live or recorded]

[Text] My dear contrymen, it is now undeniable that today, 19 December 1993, will go down into the annals of our country as a new victory for our people. In fact, in spite of the intimidation and acts of violence, the populations of towns and villages rushed to the polling stations very early this morning. As I speak to you now, we are harrassed by requests from some districts heads, whose polling stations have been destroyed, to send them ballot boxes to enable their subjects to vote. So, in view of the disturbances and delays recorded at some polling stations, and in accordance with the provisions of [words indistinct] for the presidential and legislative elections, the officers in charge of the affected polling stations shall, in specified exceptional cases, be authorized to delay the closing time for the voting. Thank you.

Vote Counting Committee Meets

AB1912213493 Conakry Radiodiffusion Nationale de la
Republique de Guinee in French 2000 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Communique from Alseny Rene Gomez, Guinean Minister of the Interior and Security; issued in Conakry on 19 December—read by announcer]

[Text] The Minister of interior and security, chairman of the Supervisory Committee in charge of vote counting of the 19 December presidential election, hereby convenes members of the above-named committee to attend a meeting slated for today at 2100 at the [word indistinct] Hall of the People's Palace. They are the minister of justice and keeper of the seals; the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; minister of communication; secretary general of the Transitional Committee for National Regeneration; chairman of the National Communications Council; chairman of the National Electoral Commission; secretary general of the National Islamic League; and the Archbishop of Conakry.

The minister reminds committee members that, in accordance with Article 3 of the decree appointing members of the Supervisory Committee, members must come in person.

Issued, Conakry on 19 December

Signed, Alseny Rene Gomez.

Radio Reports 'Calm' Atmosphere

AB1912230293 Conakry Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique de Guinee in French 2000 GMT 19 Dec 93

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Our special correspondents have been at work since this morning during this historic event, in order to enable us to experience every moment of electoral activity both here in Conakry and in the interior.

[Unidentified reporter] You have been following these events all day long from the various reports filed by our special correspondents nationwide. Ibrahim Ahmed Bari now gives us a recap on the various calls received on the elections this Sunday.

[Bari] Guineans went to the polls today. According to calls and messages received from our special correspondents and press attaches throughout the country, the elections, on the whole, were held in an atmosphere of calm and serenity. One observation that has been made is that polling, which started a bit early or a bit late depending on the area, did not prevent voters from performing their civic duty. No incidents were reported in Kindia, (Bourki), Labe, Loda, Macenta, Koya, Mali, or Koungara. The call made by elders and political leaders for calm and moderation undoubtedly contributed to that.

However, regarding the technical and logistical aspects of the event, it must be noted that, according to certain special correspondents, there were certain problems linked with a lack of technical means during the transportation and distribution of electoral material, voter cards, voting registers and so on. This was the case in Kankan, (Zourikeri), Koya, Tougue, Macenta, and even Conakry, where voter cards continued to be distributed even this morning in certain suburbs during polling. In Koma for instance, people were kept waiting, and according to a GUINEAN PRESS AGENCY correspondent, polling started there at 1600. Polling reportedly started at noon in Kankan according to Abdoulaye Camara, who called a while ago from (Madoutamba).

The other side to this Sunday's polls are without doubt the incidents noted in Conakry, in the interior, and abroad. In Conakry, there were [words indistinct] polling stations and ballot boxes were destroyed and election officials harassed in certain areas. According to our special correspondents, there were cases of regrettable incidents in Tongui, Yimbaya, (Lakariye), Takhoure, (Matoutou), Amdallaye, and Ratoma. In light of this situation, the interior minister has just announced that polling should be extended in areas where necessary to enable voters to vote. As you know, there were incidents, prior to the elections, at diplomatic missions abroad in Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Gambia, [words indistinct]. In Paris however, and according to our ambassador, things allegedly went well today in France, and the same goes for our diplomatic missions in Algiers, Havana, Bucharest [words indistinct]. Another important piece of information which we

have received is that candidates Lansana Conte of the Party of Unity and Progress, Mamadou Ba of the Union for the New Republic, Mohamed Mansour Kaba of the Djama Party all voted today. However candidate Siradiou Diallo of the Party of Renewal and Progress confirmed on our radio station that he did not take part in the elections, in accordance with directives of the opposition. We do not however have any information on the other candidates' voting activity. That is what we can say for now.

[Announcer] Thank you, Ibrahim Ahmed Bari for this update, which is an important part of this broadcast. [passage omitted with indistinct portions]

Opposition Rejects Results

AB2012114993 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Dec 93

[Telephone interview with Siradiou Diallo, opposition Renovation and Progress Party leader, in Conakry by reporter Fergus Nicoll; Diallo speaks in French, fading into English translation—monitored in progress]

[Text] ...was not satisfied with the arrangements. On the line to Conakry, Fergus Nicoll asked Siradiou Diallo of the opposition Renovation and Progress Party whether he would accept the election results.

[Begin recording] [Diallo] No, the elections have not gone smoothly around the country. Even in Conakry itself, there were many acts of violence, many protests, and ballot boxes were smashed.

[Nicoll] So, do you think the results will be acceptable when they are published?

[Diallo] No, the results cannot be credible. The power had it all arranged two days before the poll—and there were many, many irregularities during the voting. So, the results were programmed in advance by the authorities. So, the results cannot possibly be acceptable nor credible, because they were not done openly.

[Nicoll] So, what can you do now, Mr. Diallo? I understand there is going to be opposition meeting this week. What is your step?

[Diallo] Well, I think that one day soon all the opposition will come together again to work out our strategy to go on fighting this dictatorial regime that was not prepared to have democratic elections—only to restore democracy to this country, because the great majority of our people aspire to just that. [sentence as heard]

[Nicoll] But, specifically, so, what did you have in mind, demonstrations or what?

[Diallo] We are going to continue the struggle, and that means that all tactics will be used. We are sure that we are not going to rest until we have a new strategy to deal with the power [as heard] that be.

[Nicoll] So, what is your message to the people of Guinea this morning? What would you say to them now about the election?

[Diallo] We will say what we have always said to the Guinean people. It is a message of hope. They need to know that the struggle for democracy will be long and hard, that it is not just about one vote. It means we have to regain hope and not give up, and carrying on the struggle until irreversible democracy is brought to this nation. And all the people, particularly the young, are behind us. So, the fight will go on. [end recording]

Nigeria

Egyptian Envoy Denies Babangida Seeking Asylum in Egypt

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[Text] The Chief of General Staff, Lieutenant-General Oladipo Diya, has reasserted that the present administration is not in office to perpetuate military rule in

Nigeria. When he received the Egyptian ambassador to Nigeria in his office today, Lt. Gen. Diya reaffirmed the commitment of the government to the establishment of true and lasting democracy in the country. He expressed delight over the Egyptian Government's appreciation and understanding of the Nigerian situation as an internal problem of Nigeria. He promised that everything possible will be done to achieve the vision of a truly great Nigeria.

The Egyptian ambassador, Dr. Fu'ad Mahmud Yusuf, assured Nigeria of Egypt's readiness to cooperate with and support her to achieve stability. He said stability in Nigeria is very essential, not only to Africa but to the world at large.

After the visit to the Chief of General Staff, State House correspondent Mohammad Labo took up the ambassador on the alleged request by former president Ibrahim Babangida to be granted asylum in Egypt. He denied reports that the former president sought asylum in Egypt. According to him, General Babangida's visit to Egypt will end by the end of the month, from where he'll proceed to Saudi Arabia for two weeks before returning home.

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